

Hindley Urban District Council.



TWENTY-FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

TOGETHER WITH

THE REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR,

FOR THE YEAR 1925,



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*Medical Officer of Health, Child Welfare Officer,
School Medical Officer :*

R. KAY NISBET, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.E.

Sanitary Inspector :

THOS. FRANCE, Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute ; Meat Inspector's Cert.,
R.S.I., and Liverpool University.

Associate Member Institute Sanitary Engineers.

Health Visitors :

Mrs. K. BARTON, Cert. Liverpool Hospital. and C.M.B.

Miss E. GREGORY, C.M.B.

Clerk - - - - - N. ALLEN.

Steam Disinfector Attendant - J. FARNON.

Adoptive Acts :

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (adopted 1911).

Public Health Amendment Act, 1907 (sections adopted 1909).

Local Bye-laws or Regulations :

Nuisances, 1886.	Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops, 1905.
Slaughter-houses, 1886.	Paving of Back Yards, adopted 1912.
New Streets & Buildings, 1886.	Tents, Vans & Shed Dwellings, 1912.
Common Lodging Houses, 1886.	Offensive Trades, 1912.
Houses Let in Lodgings, 1886.	Ice Cream Manufacture & Sale, 1914.
Markets, 1893.	

COUNCIL OFFICES,

HINDLEY.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hindley Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Twenty-fifth ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health.

On this occasion the report is a survey report and covers a period of five years.

Incorporated in the body of the report a series of charts show, in graphic manner the Infantile Mortality-rate, Death-rate, Birth-rate, and the principal Notifiable Diseases. These specially prepared graphs cover a period of twenty years, and from their perusal it will be noted that the general health of the township is very greatly improved.

Further reference to all matters bearing on the Public Health is made under appropriate headings in the body of the report.

I take this opportunity of tendering my best thanks to Mr. O. P. Abbott, Surveyor, to Mr. France, the Sanitary Officer, and other members of the Public Health Staff, for their friendly and helpful co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

R. KAY NISBET,

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NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The area covered by the Urban District of Hindley comprises 2,612·21 acres, bounded in the east by Leigh Borough and the Westhoughton Urban District, in the north by the Aspull Urban District, in the south by the Abram Urban District, and in the south and west by the Ince Urban District. The Hindley Urban District is also the Local Education Authority Area for the administration of Education Acts.

The Urban District is divided into five Wards. Three Wards—the Central, North and West—may be stated to constitute the Township of Hindley, while the two outlying Districts of Platt Bridge and Hindley Green form roughly the South and East Wards respectively.

The population at the Census in 1921 was 24,850—an increase of 750 on 1911.

The estimated population in 1925 is 24,930.

Hindley is situated on a mineral strata, with clay and sand subsoil, covering coalseams. The north-east corner of the District is the highest point, 260 feet above sea level; and the lowest is the south-west corner of Platt Bridge, 89 feet above sea level. Three small streams run through the District. The largest, Borsdane Brook, traverses the township from north to south and receives a small part of the treated effluent from the Hart Common Sewage Works, water pumped from time to time from different coal mines, and used water from the mills in the district. Owing to land subsidence in the area of the Central Station, with an accompanying sinking of the Borsdane Brook, the water gradually accumulated on the adjacent land until it reached the level of the old channel, and as the subsidence continued, the volume and quantity naturally increased, causing great difficulty in dealing with sewage, the Sewage Works remaining at their old level and surrounding country subsiding. To deal with this matter pumping machinery and ejectors, at a cost of £14,000, are in course of erection and are nearing completion.

A smaller stream, called Hockery Brook, passes from the western side of the township through a culvert in Liverpool Road to join Borsdane Brook in Strangeways Fields. This brook also receives polluted water from mines and sulphate works. The smallest stream, Marsh Brook, forms the northern and eastern boundaries of the Urban District, and is comparatively free from pollution.

Reference is again made to the effect of land subsidence on the Sewerage and Drainage Schemes under the appropriate section.

Industries.—Coal Mining, Cotton Spinning and Weaving, with Iron Foundry and Waggon Works.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1925.

Estimated population : 1924 = 24,850 ; 1925 = 24,930.

					<i>Birth-rate.</i>	<i>Death-rate.</i>	<i>Phthisis Death-rate.</i>	<i>Rate of Deaths under 1 year.</i>
1924	..	..	..	..	19.1	12.1	0.72	86
1925	..	..	..	..	20.0	12.2	0.56	90
Increase or decrease on previous								
year	..	..	..	..	+0.9	+0.1	—0.16	+4.0

DEATHS.

					1924.	1925.
Registered in Hindley Urban District	..	..	..	..	303	305
Belonging to and registered out of the District				..	44	47
Less deaths of non-residents transferred				..	3	3
(2 males, 1 female, total = 3)						
Death-rate per 1,000 living	..	..	..	..	10.54	10.3
Infantile Mortality Death-rate per 1,000 births				..	86.1	90.2
Percentage Death-rate of Infants : Legitimate				..	82.3	94.74
Percentage Death-rate of Infants : Illegitimate				..	214.5	No deaths.

BIRTHS REGISTERED.

				<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Urban District, 1924	..	..	..	462	223	239
Urban District, 1925	..	..	..	487	239	248

DEATH-RATE FOR TEN YEARS, 1916 TO 1925.

<i>Year.</i>					<i>All Causes.</i>	<i>Zymotics.</i>	<i>Infant Deaths per 1,000 Births.</i>
1916	..	..	..	..	14.9	..	102
1917	..	..	..	..	17.08	..	146
1918	..	..	..	..	18.3	1.45	129
1919	..	..	..	..	13.3	1.01	99
1920	..	..	..	..	14.9	2.64	147
1921	..	..	..	..	11.6	1.3	113
1922	..	..	..	..	12.29	1.02	81
1923	..	..	..	..	13.6	.65	147.1
1924	..	..	..	..	10.54	.80	86.1
1925	..	..	..	..	10.3	.33	90.2

The Schick Test for Diphtheria has not been used as no serious epidemic has occurred. The same applies to the Dick Test in Scarlet Fever.

Parish Relief : Amount expended = £3,357 18s. 11d.

No. of cases = 341.

No. of cases receiving medical relief only = 169,

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1925 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
NAME OF DISTRICT—HINDLEY URBAN.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS registered in the District		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS belonging to the District			
		Un-corrected number	NETT		Number	Rate	of Non-Residents registered in the District 8	of Residents not registered in the District 9	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1919	24582	553	553	22.4	277	11.7	4	43	55	99	346	13.3
1920	24538	643	643	26.2	335	13.6	3	34	95	147	366	14.9
1921	24120	590	597	24.7	282	11.6	5	43	68	113	325	13.4
1922	24400	505	514	21.07	300	12.29	1	49	42	81	349	14.3
1923	24450	469	469	19.14	333	13.6	4	42	69	..	371	15.2
1924	24850	468	476	19.1	262	10.54	3	44	41	86.1	303	12.1
1925	24930	493	499	20.0	258	10.3	3	47	45	90.2	305	12.2

TABLE II.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District.										
	Under	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & up.	All Ages.		
	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M	F	
1.—Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
2.—Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
3.—Measles	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	
4.—Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	
5.—Whooping Cough	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	
6.—Diphtheria	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	
7.—Influenza	..	..	..	1	..	1	2 3	1	3	5	
8.—Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	2	1	
9.—Meningococcal Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
10.—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	1	..	1	3 2	4 1	2	..	9	5	
11.—Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	2	
12.—Cancer, Malignant Disease	..	..	..	..	..	3	4 5	4 8	11	13	
13.—Rheumatic Fever	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	
14.—Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	
15.—Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	1	4 4	3 7	7	12	
16.—Heart Disease	1	..	..	1	1	2	6 7	3 9	11	19	
17.—Arterio-Sclerosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 1	5 2	6	3	
18.—Bronchitis	2 1	1	..	..	..	1 3	4 4	10 9	17	18	
19.—Pneumonia (all forms)	4 7	4 2	3 2	1 2	..	1	5 1	5 1	23	15	
20.—Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	
21.—Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
22.—Diarrhoea	1 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
23.—Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	
24.—Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
25.—Acute and Chronic Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	1 4	1	..	2	4	
26.—Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	
27.—Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	4	
28.—Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	11 9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	9	
29.—Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	1	2 2	1	3	3	
30.—Other Deaths from Violence	..	..	1	1 1	1	4	1	..	7	2	
31.—Other Defined Diseases	5 1	..	4	1 1	2 1	3	5 8	13 14	26	32	
32.—Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	
TOTALS	25 20	5 4	3 7	5 8	8 7	15 24	42 36	45 51	148	157	

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS, BIRTH-RATE, INFANT DEATHS, INFANT DEATH-RATE, AND CAUSES OF INFANTILE DEATH FOR THE YEARS 1901—1925.

Year.	Number of Births.	Birth-rate per 1000 living.	Number of Infant Deaths.	Infant Death-rate per 1000 Births.	Number of Illeg.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria & Croup.	Erysipelas.	Abdom. T.B.	Other T.B.	Mening. T.B.	Mening. Non-Tuber.	Convulsions.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Diarrhoea.	Enteritis.	Gastritis.	Syphilis.	Rickets.	Congen. Defects & Malformation.	Prematurity.	Atrophy, Debility Marasmus.	Inj. Birth.	Influenza.	Other Causes.	Totals
1901	927	39.3	198	213	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1902	..	35.8	158	181	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1903	881	35.7	154	173	31	5	1	..	..	..	20	..	..	..	5	19	13	12	..	1	..	2	13	..	..	..	..	..
1904	802	32.01	148	184	34	4	20	..	2	..	9	..	..	..	4	19	11	12	..	..	..	3	11	..	..	..	63	154
1905	807	32.04	120	148	32	2	4	..	..	6	4	..	..	3	3	6	20	14	4	2	2	3	15	9	..	..	53	148
1906	820	32.0	131	159	37	4	1	..	..	..	..	7	4	9	12	11	29	9	4	..	..	7	17	11	..	..	23	120
1907	749	29.2	114	152	21	5	7	..	..	6	..	2	6	1	5	13	16	7	3	..	2	5	13	15	1	..	7	131
1908	803	30.5	127	158	21	..	..	2	..	13	5	1	10	5	5	21	10	3	3	1	1	16	26	3	1	..	1	114
1909	727	27.3	128	176	31	3	4	2	..	7	4	3	5	7	5	19	5	8	3	1	1	22	18	5	..	..	1	127
1910	726	26.9	89	122	31	..	4	1	..	5	5	4	4	2	4	17	3	4	..	1	..	7	15	7	..	..	6	128
1911	710	29.4	104	146	25	1	..	2	..	8	1	1	3	2	4	11	24	1	..	..	..	7	16	20	..	..	6	89
1912	674	28.1	114	166	28	10	8	1	1	7	1	..	..	3	9	36	2	1	1	..	..	5	15	10	..	..	3	104
1913	710	29.2	112	157	25	2	..	..	..	3	..	..	10	3	6	18	24	6	..	..	..	3	11	19	..	..	4	114
1914	741	30.3	93	125	26	..	3	1	..	2	..	..	6	3	5	18	14	2	..	..	..	6	15	14	..	..	5	110
1915	677	27.6	104	159	22	13	7	..	2	3	1	..	1	4	7	24	13	4	..	1	..	2	10	12	..	..	4	93
1916	613	24.7	63	102.7	21	..	5	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	7	12	..	4	1	1	..	3	10	11	..	..	4	108
1917	589	23.7	86	146	13	2	6	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	6	24	..	2	3	1	1	7	14	6	1	..	8	63
1918	565	22.8	74	129	29	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	13	18	5	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	..	13	86	
1919	553	22.4	55	99.4	22	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	9	6	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	74
1920	643	26.2	95	147	18	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	8	18	21	..	..	..	..	20	..	..	..	6	55	
1921	597	24.7	64	113	26	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	16	8	..	..	..	..	24	..	..	..	1	1	95
1922	514	21.0	42	81	21	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	11	3	..	..	..	..	24	..	..	..	..	7	68
1923	469	19.1	68	144	8	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	19	2	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	1	6	42
1924	476	19.1	41	86	14	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	8	7	6	..	..	..	..	24	..	..	..	1	11	68
1925	499	20.0	45	90	12	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	11	3	..	..	..	..	20	..	..	..	..	2	41
						62	82	12	6	61	54	19	56	45	132	377	238	93	22	9	7	245	219	162	3	9	251	2177

TABLE A.

SHOWING THE NUMBER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED AT EACH AGE-PERIOD, DURING 1925, ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS AT EACH AGE-PERIOD, AND THE TOTAL DEATHS.

Disease	Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & up- wards	Total cases noti- fied	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria ..notified deaths	..	..	1	1	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	.. 1
Scarlet Fever ..notified deaths	1	..	2	5	5	16	1	1	..	..	..	..	31	22	.. 1
Enteric Fever ..notified deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. ..
Erysipelas ..notified deaths	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	1	1	4	7	2	19	..	.. 1
Encephalitis { notified Lethargica { deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	3	..	.. 3
Pneumonia ..notified deaths	14	10	11	7	2	16	4	2	16	5	6	6	99	..	.. 38
Tuberculosis : (a) Pulmonary notified deaths	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	5	1	6	..	16	..	.. 14
(b) Non-Pul'y notified deaths	..	..	1	..	..	2	2	2	6	1	2	..	12	..	.. 3
Puerperal Sepsis notified deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	..	.. 3

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is conducted from the Rivington water main of the Liverpool Corporation to a service reservoir at Westhoughton from which it is distributed throughout the district. The supply is continuous and abundant and the water is of good quality, clear, soft, and palatable. The hardness is 4.05 degrees.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The sewerage and drainage schemes of the Hindley Urban District have been largely determined in the past by land subsidence through mining operations adding to natural difficulties in obtaining a gravitation system.

In the original scheme the main lines of sewers followed the natural fall of the land from north to south. The sewage from Ladies Lane, Castle Hill, Bridge Street, Platt Lane, Atherton Road west of Leigh Road, Wigan Road, and from part of Liverpool Road as far as Stoney Lane Bridge, was discharged untreated into Borsdane Brook near the Great Central Railway. From Stoney Lane Bridge to Dolly's Bridge on the Liverpool Road section the sewage passed untreated into a stream near Strangeways House, this stream joining Borsdane Brook at a lower point. South of Dolly's Bridge and from the low-lying Platt Bridge district the sewage gravitated to a tank placed on land on the S.E. side of Walthew Lane, and from this tank it was pumped to Borsdane Brook.

The sewage from Smith's Lane and Leigh Road of the Hindley Green district discharged into a stream at the S.E. part of the township; while the sewage from Atherton Road, east of Leigh Road, was treated on land at Carr Common Farm. In 1899, new Sewage Works were erected in the Hindley Green district, and the sewage from all Hindley Green from a point slightly to the west of Leigh Road, and from a small part of Castle Hill, Sandy Lane, Alder Lane, and a part of Swan Lane discharged into the new tanks. A section of the above area has slightly subsided, but up to the present time the sewage is being dealt with satisfactorily.

Between 1890-1892 Sewage Works were erected at Platt Bridge, the main sewer from Hindley being extended to the Works. The section between Stoney Lane Bridge and Dolly's Bridge was also connected to this new main sewer by intercepting sewers, and the flow throughout the system was now by gravitation, except in the low-lying Platt Bridge district from which the sewage was lifted to tanks by pumps. An arrangement was made at this time to treat the sewage from the greater portion of the Platt Bridge district of Ince and, at a later date, from a few houses in the Abram district.

This scheme was on a partial separate system, and most of the surface water from the Hindley area of Platt Bridge drained direct into Borsdane Brook. The surface water from the Ince district passed by an old water-course, now piped, running along the township boundaries and discharging into Borsdane Brook outside the Hindley district.

Subsidence in the Liverpool Road section disarranged the sewers, and in 1902 it became necessary to erect a temporary pumping plant by which the sewage from between Stoney Lane Bridge and Dolly's Bridge could be raised to the new main sewer. A new intercepting sewer from Strangeways House area to the Pumping Station was laid in 1907. Further subsidence in this area necessitated considerable reconstruction in 1912-13. The old main sewer was abandoned, a new and larger sewer was laid on higher levels, and a permanent Pumping Station was erected, near the Great Central Railway, by which all the sewage of the Liverpool Road section from near White House to Dolly's Bridge was lifted to the new sewer to gravitate to the Sewage Works at Platt Bridge.

But the low-lying area of Platt Bridge was also subsiding and further complications arose. It became necessary in 1909 to place an engine and pump in the Platt Bridge Gas Yard to pump to the brook the surface water which had previously gravitated, and since that date, an additional engine and pump and an electric motor and pump have been provided. There are thus in the Platt Bridge area two pumping systems—one to raise the sewage to the Sewage Works and the other to pump the surface water to Borsdane Brook. In 1925 an entirely new scheme for dealing with this matter was commenced and is now nearing completion. This scheme consists of a new Pumping Station to deal with the low-level sewage and surface water in this area, the estimated cost being £14,000. As aforesaid, it will, of course, be obvious that the cause of this heavy expenditure is entirely due to mining subsidence.

In addition to the trouble to the actual drains and sewers caused by land subsidence in the Platt Bridge area it became necessary in 1918-19 for the Hindley Urban District Council to raise the banks of Borsdane Brook some 4 feet at different points, both within and without the Hindley area, in order that flooding might be prevented. Later, further strengthening by means of a brick wall was adopted.

The Hindley Urban District Council has thus dealt with a serious problem, for it was not merely a question of drainage in the Hindley district alone, but involved the districts of Ince and Abram.

SEWAGE WORKS.

Hindley Green.—This system consists of precipitation tanks (alumino-ferric), and the effluent is passed on to beds of gravel, coke breeze, sand and ash before passing to the brook.

The following Table shows the number and types of closets in the district:—

	1909.	1914,	1919.	1920.	1925.
Privy closets	1,664	1,234	1,000	2,188	1,669
Pail closets	1,108	1,035	1,008	900	711
Fresh water closets	612	1,272	1,540	1,562	2,281
Waste water closets	19	19	19	19	19
Ashpits	—	—	—	1,272	1,094
Ashtubs	—	—	1,490	2,244	2,945

Note.—In the above table the apparent discrepancy in the number of privy closets in different years is due to the different method of enumeration : in 1920, the number of *actual* closets has been counted, while in previous years the number of privy middens was taken. In the number of fresh water closets, those in mills and schools are excluded.

In percentages the above table gives :—

Privy middens	35.66
Pail closets	15.2
Water closets	48.74
Waste water closets	.4

The work of converting privy closets into water closets was practically suspended during the war. This matter has been given serious consideration and a general speeding up of conversions has been aimed at with much success. The completion of the new Pumping Station at Platt Bridge will enable the Council to tackle this problem in a satisfactory manner with a view to a 100 per cent. conversions in the near future. In 1910, there were 551 “wheel-out” privy closets which have now been converted, excepting 25 in the Platt Bridge district.

SCAVENGING..

The scavenging is carried out by the employees of the Urban District Council, and by contract in the South and East Wards, under the direction of the Surveyor. No destructor is available, the dry ashes being deposited in tips throughout the area, and the nightsoil in tanks in the town’s yard.

STREET CLEANSING.

The presence in the township of many fruit, fish and vegetable hawkers causes a profusion of loose and soiled papers to be scattered about the streets. These papers are added to by the habit of people eating chips and throwing down the papers which have contained the food. It is impossible that any road staff can adequately cope with this matter, and it appears to me that some drastic measure will have to be taken to inculcate a spirit of tidiness amongst these offenders.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

During 1925 the work carried out by the Sanitary Department has steadily increased. In addition to the routine work of the Sanitary Inspector in investigating nuisances, inspecting factories, offensive trades, housing conditions, slaughter-houses, etc., a keen watch is kept on the sale of food-stuffs, prepared and otherwise, and in the visiting and disinfection of premises for the control of infectious diseases. The Medical Officer of Health exercises general supervision of the work, visits special premises at least once annually, and personally investigates all conditions reported to him by the Sanitary Inspector as being injurious to health, or likely to become so. Particular attention has been paid to the improving and rebuilding of cowsheds in the district, the paving of yards, and improving the water supply and general hygienic conditions.

GENERAL HOUSING AND UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Hindley has been built along the main roads intersecting the district, and in no part is there an area that can be called congested. There is no unhealthy area calling for an improvement or reconstruction under Parts I. and II. of the Act of 1890. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Section do not apply, but number 3 does. We have a considerable number of defective houses which can and ought to be dealt with by Improvement Schemes. Twenty-five houses have already been condemned as unfit for human habitation, and through operating a sound reconstruction scheme propounded by this department, 100 others are under consideration. Eleven of those houses have been reclaimed and are now in occupation. The difficulty of dealing with this class of property is the housing of the inhabitants whilst the alterations are in progress, alternative accommodation being unavailable. Their removal to other parts of the district is usually resented. Unfortunately, we still have back-to-back houses, houses in which the windows of the living rooms will not open. There is Brook Street with no yard and no back doors, and these conditions cannot be altered as the back of these houses abut on S. Benedict's School yard. On the other hand, repairs to Chapel Street, upon which scheme was prepared some years ago but rejected by the owners, have now been carried out at eight houses to the approval of the Local Authority. Overcrowding exists in a few isolated cases.

HOUSING.

These few isolated cases of overcrowding are due to residents working in districts where houses are not as yet available.

Houses built since—

1911..	..	..	..	..	35
1912..	..	..	..	..	38
1913..	..	..	..	..	24
1914..	..	..	..	..	19
1915..	..	..	..	..	8
1916..	..	..	..	..	9
1917..	..	..	..	..	9
1918..	..	..	..	..	Nil
1919..	..	..	..	..	Nil
1920..	..	..	..	..	Nil
1921..	..	..	..	..	42
1922..	..	..	..	..	11
1923..	..	..	..	..	Nil
1924..	..	..	..	..	2
1925..	..	..	..	..	16
					—
					71
					—

The Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Officer inspected various properties where there was a possibility of determining existing Closing Orders. Twenty-six properties were inspected, and after consultation with owners, defects were remedied in eleven cases to the satisfaction of the Council and Closing Orders subsequently determined.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of housing in the district is quite good for an industrial centre of this nature. The general character of the defects are “back-to-back” houses, insanitary or deficient supply of offices, damp walls, poor lighting and ventilation. Action in these cases is taken whenever possible under the Public Health Acts. Some difficulty has been experienced in remedying unfitness owing to the shortage of capital for carrying out the necessary repairs, but owners of property as a rule appear desirous of improving conditions when possible. Further delay and difficulty occur in the case of properties requiring structural alterations (as in the case of back-to-back houses) owing to the impossibility at present of providing temporary accommodation for the tenants while the necessary improvements are being carried out.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

None.

APPENDICES.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Statistics—Year ended 31st December, 1925.

1.—GENERAL.

(1) Estimated population	.. .. .	24,930
(2) General death-rate	.. .. .	12·2
(3) Death-rate from Tuberculosis	.. .. .	0·56
(4) Infantile mortality	.. .. .	90
(5) Number of dwelling-houses of all classes	.. .. .	4,570
(6) Number of working-class dwelling-houses	.. .. .	2,548
(7) Number of new working-class houses erected	.. .. .	16

ENGINEER'S AND SURVEYOR'S OFFICE,
HINDLEY,

3rd January, 1926.

PARTICULARS OF RAINFALL, Etc.,

Recorded at Platt Bridge Sewage Works during the Year ending December
31st, 1925.

Height of Rain Gauge 98·64 feet above Sea Level.

Height of Barometer 104·00 feet above Sea Level.

<i>Rainfall per Month in Inches.</i>				<i>No. of Days on which Rain Fell.</i>	<i>Greatest Fall in 24 Hours in Inches.</i>	
January	..	..	2·33	14	1st January	.. ·44
February	..	..	5·14	22	11th February	.. ·78
March	..	..	1·29	12	13th March	.. ·37
April	..	..	1·62	14	22nd April	.. ·47
May	..	..	3·59	19	18th May	.. ·50
June	..	..	0·05	3	1st and 24th June	.. ·02
July	..	..	2·41	12	25th July	.. ·58
August	..	..	4·34	18	10th August	.. 1·40
September	..	..	3·60	24	19th September	.. ·53
October	..	..	4·11	20	19th October	.. ·84
November	..	..	3·57	11	7th November	.. ·71
December	..	..	2·75	17	28th December	.. ·55
Total for year 1925..			34·80	186(^{Out of} ₃₆₅)		

Total Weight of Rain which fell in Hindley during the year 1925 :
9,174,445 tons.

RAINFALL IN									
1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
32.60	34.94	34.47	39.87	33.91	41.43	30.25	36.16	41.21	39.11

THERMOMETER READING.			BAROMETER READING.		
<i>Highest for year.</i>	<i>Lowest for year.</i>	<i>Mean for year.</i>	<i>Highest for year.</i>	<i>Lowest for year.</i>	<i>Mean for year.</i>
72° F.	24° F.	47° F.	30.36	28.33	29.66

OSWALD P. ABBOTT,

Surveyor, Hindley.

A great amount of time has been expended on reconstructing those cowsheds which were capable of being remodelled, and in cases where this was impracticable I am happy to state that the owners have been prevailed upon to erect new and suitable shippens. This has been brought about by an amicable understanding and through your officials pointing out the ultimate advantages to be obtained therefrom, and the necessity of thoroughly sanitary conditions for the production of a clean milk supply.

It will be obvious to those in the district who come in contact with milk purveyors that the standard of cleanliness and improvement of premises is particularly marked, the old badly ventilated, dark, dingy cowshed having entirely disappeared and given place to a light, airy, easily maintained structure.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT IN 1925.

Number of Premises Inspected	..	..	..	1,810
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Number of Special Premises Inspected :—

Workshops and workplaces	..	..	..	215
Bakehouses	..	..	..	63
Slaughter-houses	..	..	..	321
Dairies and cowsheds	..	..	..	214
Dwelling-houses (Sect. 17 H. & T.P. Acts)	..	..	..	205
Offensive trades	..	..	..	30
Picture halls	..	..	..	24
				—— 1,072

Number of Visits <i>re</i> Infectious Diseases	..	..	401
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Number of Nuisances Reported :—

(i.) In 1924 (unabated)	..	..	..	528
(ii.) In 1925	..	..	..	1,256
				—— 1,784

Action taken in Nuisances :—

Preliminary letters	..	..	..	474
Statutory notices	..	..	..	32
Limewashing and cleansing notices	..	..	..	33
Nuisances abated in 1925	..	..	..	1,597
Nuisances unabated	..	..	..	187

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

<i>Premises.</i>					<i>Number of Inspections.</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices.</i>	
Factories	..	..	..	..	35	..	5
Workshops	..	..	..	..	116	..	—
Workplaces	..	..	..	..	7	..	—
Total					158	..	5

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects.</i>		
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—			
Want of cleanliness	6	6	—
Want of ventilation	1	1	—
Overcrowding	Nil.		
Want of drainage of floors	2	2	—
Other nuisances	15	15	—
Sanitary accommodation :—			
Insufficient	1	1	—
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—
Not separate for sexes	1	1	—
OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS :—			
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—
Breach of special sanitary require- ments for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	—	—	—
Other offences	2	2	—
Total	30	30	—

3.—OUTWORKERS.

Nil.

4.—LIST OF REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

<i>Workshops.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Dressmaking	14
Millinery	5
Bakers and Confectioners	23
Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights	4
Boot Repairers and Cloggers	22
Cycle Repairers	4
Harness Repairers	1
Joiners and Builders	8
Tailors	6
Tinplate Workers	1
Motor Repair Works	3
Watchmakers and Cleaners.. .. .	5
Flagger and Slater	1
Underclothing	8
Bottling Stores	5
Stocking Knitters	5
Sausage Makers	5
Painters	2
Ice Cream Makers	1
Plumbers	1
Printers	3
Firewood Makers	2
Hairdressers	13
Tripe Dresser	1
Quarry	1
Cabinet Makers	2
Hay and Straw Dealers	1
Dairymen	1
Total	148

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

<i>Class.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories.. ..	—
Failure to affix abstract of the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 133, 1901)	8
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remedial under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901) :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	—
Other	—
Underground bakehouses (s.101) in use at the end of the year	1

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The Medical Officer of Health, in his dual capacity, supervises the sanitary conditions of all schools. During the year 24 special visits were made from a public health point of view for the purpose of reviewing the sanitary conditions. A brief summary relating to each school is appended herewith :—

Argyle Street.—It was necessary to draw the Committee's attention to the state of repair of the sanitary conveniences. These have since been remedied. The flagging of the playground was completed during the year, and this has decidedly improved matters.

Hindley Common C.—Considering that this is a very old building and is to be discontinued as a school on completion of the new school shortly to be erected, I consider that the arrangements and general hygienic conditions warrant no further action and may be deemed satisfactory *pro tem*.

Hindley Green Brunswick C.—The above remarks *re* Hindley Common C. School apply here also.

Castle Hill C.E.—The following much-needed improvements have been carried out :—

Trough closets converted to pedestal wash-down W.C.s.

The brickwork of the school re-pointed and eavespouts renewed where defective.

The yard surface is still bad, being unpaved, muddy in winter, dusty in summer, and unsuitable as a playground for many reasons. The approach down a flight of steep steps is dangerous, and the position of the playground on a lower level than the school building undesirable, though it is difficult to see how this can be obviated. The paramount need of the moment, if this yard is to be retained as a playground, is paving or covering with some impervious material.

Hindley Green C.E.—The Infant and Mixed Department floors have been renewed. Wash bowls are of an old type and untrapped. The cloakrooms are inadequate, badly lit and ventilated, and the closet accommodation is generally insanitary. These matters are, however, receiving the attention of the managers, and a scheme for the construction of cloakrooms and sanitary conveniences is being considered.

Hindley C.E.—All defects noted in my last annual report have been carried out in a satisfactory manner. Further internal alterations and the installation of electric light have greatly improved this school.

Moss Lane.—Hygienic conditions of this school are thoroughly satisfactory.

S. Nathaniel's C.E.—Nothing has been done to remedy the many evils pointed out in my last report, and I trust that the Committee will now urge that these defects are remedied without further delay.

I reproduce here last year's report on the Mixed Department :—

The roofs are leaky and the classroom floors open-jointed and generally defective. The flagged surface of the yard has subsided in places, and in consequence holds water. A portion is unpaved. The cloakrooms are congested, and insufficient wash bowls are provided. The sanitary accommodation is in a deplorable condition. The lighting is bad and could be remedied by lowering the windows. This school should be visited by a skilled architect with a view to recommending alterations.

Sacred Heart R.C.—The heating, which is by open fire and stove, is inadequate. The playground, being totally unpaved, causes the floors to be continually gritty.

I am given to understand that the managers of this school have these matters under consideration with a view to installing central heating and partial paving of yard surface.

S. Benedict's R.C.—This school, though a very old building, is clean, warm and bright.

S. Peter's C.E.—This school has been examined and defects noted. I refrain from placing these before you as they are on a par with those noted by H.M. Inspector, and I understand that the managers have decided to seek a specialist's advice with a view to complying with the Inspector's requirements and remedying the said defects.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

It was not necessary to close any school during the year.

FOOD SUPPLIES.

From the nature of the industries conducted in Hindley and the neighbourhood, the bulk of the food supply is of necessity imported from other districts. The Medical Officer of Health, or the Sanitary Officer, is empowered to inspect and examine "all articles intended for the food of man," but as Hindley is an Urban District the duty of taking samples, etc., is carried out by officials acting under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health for the County, and it will here be noted that in no case was it necessary to institute proceedings under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

MILK.

In 1925 there were twenty-three cowkeepers and five purveyors of milk on the local register.

In a circular issued in October, 1920, to Local Authorities by the Ministry of Health, it is pointed out that the average consumption of milk in England and Wales is less than five ounces per head per diem, and that efforts should be made to increase this amount, more especially for expectant and nursing mothers and young children. The special value of milk as a food, the need for an adequate supply of fresh pure milk, and the precautions necessary to prevent contamination in the house are all emphasised.

Since 1915, the number of cattle in the district has decreased by twenty-five, and it is therefore safe to state that the amount of milk is not so satisfactory as formerly, being supplemented from outside sources together with the dried milk purchased from the Health Centre.

The quality is of good average for a mining area where the conditions are liable to affect both the quality and the quantity produced.

During the year forty-five samples of milk were taken for analysis. All samples were found to be genuine.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Within the Hindley area there are five licensed slaughter-houses. Of these two are used infrequently and the remaining three are used by seven butchers. The premises were all inspected during the year and all are kept in a clean and sanitary condition. Frequent visits were also made by the Sanitary Inspector, as detailed in his report. The butcher gives notice to the Sanitary Officer in writing of proposed time of slaughter. Carcases are all examined and, if desired, stamped.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—During 1925 there was a marked decrease with regard to notifiable infectious disease. Tables showing the number of infectious diseases notified annually from 1906 to 1925 are given in the Appendix. From these it will be seen that the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria occurring in 1925 was the lowest recorded for twenty years. No cases of Enteric Fever were notified—a feature never previously recorded. The number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified was two; these cases attended at the Welfare Centre for treatment and both have normal vision. It is gratifying to note that midwives and parents avail themselves of the opportunities and facilities afforded them for the treatment of this malady; furthermore, pre-natal advice and preventive measures is no doubt the means of this marked reduction.

Pemphigus was made notifiable on 21st November, 1925, for twelve months, five cases were notified. It is satisfactory to note that the general practitioners are availing themselves of the services of the Medical Officer of Health in cases of doubtful diagnosis, and using the means placed at their disposal for the bacteriological investigation of specimens, etc.

See Tables on pages 29, 30, 31, 32, 33.

During 1925 176,000 units of anti-Diphtheretic serum were issued to general practitioners free of charge. Twenty-two throat swabs, two blood specimens and eight specimens of sputa were examined bacteriologically.

Chicken Pox was retained on the list of notifiable diseases.

Non-Notifiable Diseases.—Very few notifications of these diseases are received from parents or from medical men. Prompt intimation is received from head teachers of schools, health visitor and school nurse of the absence from school of children suffering from or in contact with these diseases.

SANDY LANE HOSPITAL.

This small hospital was erected for the isolation of cases of Small Pox in 1893. From that date until the Small Pox epidemic in 1916 it was used, by arrangement with the Local Government Board, for treatment of cases of Enteric Fever. During 1916, twenty-three cases of Small Pox were treated in the hospital, but in November of that year a letter was received from the Local Government Board stating that they did not consider the District Council's hospital to be suitable for the isolation of cases of Small Pox, and suggesting other arrangements. In April, 1917, the Hindley Urban District Council came to an agreement with the Leigh Joint Hospital Board whereby cases of Small Pox could be admitted to their hospital, and these arrangements were approved by the Local Government Board. The Sandy Lane Hospital was then opened for the reception of cases of Scarlet Fever and has so continued to be used.

The hospital accommodation consists of two wards, each with six beds and two cots. The staff consists of a caretaker, whose wife acts as matron, two nurses, and one ward maid. Temporary assistance is engaged when necessary.

Number of cases remaining from 1924	..	..	..	2
„ „ admitted in 1925	..	..	..	21
„ „ discharged	..	..	..	21
„ „ remaining in hospital at end of year	..	..	..	2
„ „ deaths occurring in hospital	..	..	..	Nil.
Average number of days in hospital of cases discharged				48·25

SCARLET FEVER.

Month.	Cases notified in whole district.												Total cases notified in each locality.			No. of cases re-moved to hospitals from locality.		
	At all ages.		At Ages—years.										North West and Cent.	South	East	North West and Cent.	South	East
	M.	F.	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45							45 to 65	65 & up.
January ..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..
February ..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..
March ..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
First Quarter ..	..	5	..	..	..	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	..	4	..
April ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
May ..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
June ..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	2	..
Second Quarter..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	2	..
First Half-Year..	..	8	..	..	..	2	..	9	..	1	..	..	..	2	10	..	6	..
July ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
August ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
September ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..
Third Quarter ..	..	3	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	2	..
October ..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..
November ..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	3	..
December ..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Fourth Quarter..	..	5	..	..	..	2	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	5	..
Second Half-Year	..	8	..	..	..	7	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	7	..
Year ..	..	18	..	..	..	5	..	16	..	1	..	..	..	11	18	..	13	8

DIPHTHERIA

Month.	Cases notified in whole district.										Total cases notified in each locality.			No of cases re-moved to hospitals from locality.						
	At all ages.		At ages—years.									North West and Cent.	South	East	North West and Cent.	South	East			
	M.	F.	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35							35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & up
January ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..			
February ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
March ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..			
First Quarter ..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..			
April ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..			
May ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..			
June ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Second Quarter ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..			
First Half-Year ..	2	2	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..			
July ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
August ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
September ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
Third Quarter ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
October ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
November ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
December ..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1			
Fourth Quarter ..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1			
Second Half-Year ..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1			
Year ..	2	5	..	..	1	1	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	1			

PNEUMONIA.

Month.	Cases notified in whole district.													Total cases notified in each locality.			
	At all ages.		At Ages—years.											North West and Cent.	South	East	
	M.	F.	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65				65 & upwards.
January ..	6	9	1	3	3	2	..	3	..	.. 1	3	.. 1	.. 2	..	8	3	4
February ..	6	2	.. 2	.. 4	1	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	.. 2	..	7	..	1
March ..	4	8	3	7	.. 4	.. 2	..	7	..	.. 1	7	.. 1	.. 2	1	11	..	1
First Quarter ..	16	19	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	.. 1	.. 1	2	26	3	6
April ..	5	7	3	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	.. 1	.. 1	1	9	1	2
May ..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	.. 1	.. 1	1	4	..	1
June ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	.. 1	.. 1	..	1	2	..
Second Quarter ..	10	10	3	..	..	1	..	2	2	..	4	.. 3	.. 1	3	14	3	9
First Half-Year ..	26	29	6	7	4	3	1	9	2	1	11	4	3	4	40	6	1
July ..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	.. 1	.. 1	..	1	..	1
August ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
September ..	2	6	..	..	3	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	5	3	..
Third Quarter ..	5	7	..	..	3	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	2	8	3	1
October ..	2	5	2	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	6	..	1
November ..	6	4	3	2	1	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	5	2	3
December ..	9	6	3	..	2	3	..	4	6	..	1	..	2	..	5	3	7
Fourth Quarter ..	17	15	8	3	4	3	1	6	7	..	4	..	2	..	16	5	11
Second Half-Year ..	22	22	8	3	7	4	1	7	7	..	5	.. 1	2	3	24	8	12
Year ..	48	51	14	10	11	7	2	16	4	2	16	5	6	6	64	14	21

CHICKENPOX.

Month.	Cases notified in whole district.												Total cases notified in each locality.			
	At all ages.		At Ages—years.										North West and Cent.	South	East	
	M.	F.	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45				45 to 65	65 & upwards.
January ..	4	7	..	..	.. 2	1	1	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	7
February ..	14	8	..	.. 2	.. 2	.. 1	1	16	2	..	..	..	..	..	11	10
March ..	11	4	..	2	1	.. 2	..	12	.. 3	..	..	..	..	..	8	6
First Quarter ..	29	19	..	2	3	2	2	36	3	..	..	..	..	..	23	23
April ..	6	3	..	..	.. 1	.. 2	1	7	.. 1	..	..	..	..	..	7	2
May ..	7	9	..	..	1	.. 2	2	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	2
June ..	5	5	..	..	1	2	2	3	.. 1	..	..	..	..	..	6	3
Second Quarter ..	18	17	2	.. 2	2	2	5	23	1	..	..	..	..	..	25	7
First Half-Year ..	47	36	2	2	5	4	7	59	4	..	..	..	..	..	48	30
July ..	1	..	.. 1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
August ..	..	2	1	1	..	.. 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
September ..	..	1	.. 1	.. 2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Third Quarter ..	1	3	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
October ..	2	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
November ..	4	6	..	..	..	..	1	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..
December ..	12	7	.. 4	2	2	1	2	7	..	1	..	..	..	..	18	..
Fourth Quarter ..	18	14	4	2	2	2	4	17	..	1	..	..	..	..	31	..
Second Half-Year ..	19	17	5	4	2	3	4	17	.. 4	1	..	..	..	..	34	..
Year ..	66	53	7	6	7	7	11	76	4	..	1	..	..	..	82	30

TUBERCULOSIS.

Months.	NOTIFICATIONS ON FORMS A & B (excluding Duplicates).																												No. of cases notified on Form C.	No. of cases notified on Form D.			
	PULMONARY.														NON-PULMONARY.																Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary		
	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & up.	Total.		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 & up.	Total.		M.	F.			
													M.	F.													M.	F.					
January	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	
February	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	2	4	1
March	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	3	1	..
First Quarter ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3	..	2	..	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	5	3	8	2	..
April	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	2	..
May	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..
June	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Second Quarter ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	5	3	..
First Half-Year ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	5	..	2	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	6	5	13	5	..	..
July	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	2	3	2	1	..	..
August	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	3	..
September	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	2	..	..
Third Quarter ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	3	..	..	..	2	3	3	5	3	6	..	..
October	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
November	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	..	..
December	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	3	2	1	1	..	..
Fourth Quarter ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	2	..	3	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	3	1	6	3	2	2	..	..	
Second Half-Year ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	4	..	4	4	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	4	1	..	5	4	9	8	5	8	..	..	
Year	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	5	1	6	..	8	8	..	..	1	..	..	2	2	2	4	1	..	7	5	15	13	18	13	..	..	

An observation block was erected in the grounds in 1919 to accommodate doubtful cases of Scarlet Fever until a positive diagnosis could be made. It has not been necessary during the year to make use of this block.

The Hindley Urban District Council have had under consideration for many years the question of the provision of an Infectious Diseases Hospital for the district. A site was purchased at Earlam's Farm, Sandy Lane. Plans were prepared and submitted to the Local Government Board, and sanction to raise a loan was obtained in December, 1909. After some delay, the Council decided to proceed with part of the scheme, and the boundary walls and fences were erected and part of the drainage carried out in 1914. Suggestions were also considered for the provision of a Tuberculosis Pavilion on the same site, but all work was suspended on the outbreak of war, and has not since been resumed.

Ample provision for Tuberculous cases is made by the County Authorities, and it is not considered desirable to attempt any further addition to the hospital facilities already obtaining in this district.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The White House Clinic, situated in Liverpool Road, on the main tram line and readily accessible to the whole township, is open daily (Sundays excepted). The Medical Officer attends three sessions weekly, assisted by the Health Visitor and School Nurse.

The premises, being used jointly by the Hindley Education Authority, consist of waiting room, weighing room, consultation room (which is also used for operations for tonsils and adenoids and two mornings weekly by the Dental Surgeon), rest and recovery room, Alpine sunlight room (raised entirely by voluntary contributions), a pram shed and large grass plot.

Consultations are given to mothers *re* their babies and talks on diet, hygiene, feeding and clothing are given. A class has also been established in garment cutting, and is carried out under personal supervision of the nurses by the Ladies' Committee.

There is only one Health Visitor and no midwives or nurses are subsidised by the Council. Maternity homes, etc., are only available through the usual hospital channels in Manchester. There are none in this district, but no difficulty is experienced in gaining admission, and a Red Cross ambulance is at all times available.

Maternal Mortality.—The rate is .14 per 1,000 cases. There were seven maternal deaths (three puerperal septicæmia, one acute mastitis, one eclampsia, one embolism, one post partum hæmorrhage). All cases were investigated by Medical Officer of Health and record filed.

Infant Deaths.—The death-rate for 1925 was 90 per 1,000. Although this figure is slightly higher than the previous year which was 86, there has been a steady and continued improvement over the last six years. It is hoped that this will continue, and there can be little doubt that improved hygienic home conditions and the work of the Welfare Centre is largely responsible for this gratifying result.

Ante-Natal Consultations are arranged for at the Clinic, and many patients are recommended by the Health Visitor and midwives to use the Centre. Every encouragement and facility is given in this direction. Special appointments are made and the strictest privacy accorded. In this manner cases of contracted pelvis, etc., have been discovered and advised as to treatment with gratifying results—to wit, successful cæsarian section and induction, etc.

There are no special methods for dealing with unmarried mothers and illegitimate children, but these naturally come to the Centre, where they are assisted with clothing and dried milk, supplied from a voluntary fund. It should be noted that during 1925 the infantile mortality-rate contains no illegitimate deaths.

With regard to Orthopædic treatment, all cases are referred to Pendlebury Children's Hospital, and results attained are highly satisfactory, cases being usually club foot, bow legs, or transplantation of tendons for talipes.

There are no voluntary societies working in connection with the Welfare Centre.

Co-ordination with the School Medical Service is of the closest order, the Medical Officer of Health being School Medical Officer. The original card bearing the history of the infant is passed on from the Welfare Centre to the School Medical record card, and so a continuous and uninterrupted history is maintained, and these cards are ultimately passed to the Labour Bureau when the child concerned leaves school.

The benefit of notification in limiting the spread of these diseases is not great, but the advantage gained is that the homes can be visited and the parents warned as to the dangers of complications. Few parents call in medical men to attend such children, and the advice given verbally, or in the pamphlets distributed, is often sufficient to prevent the undue exposure which so frequently results in serious complications. Chicken Pox was prevalent and the more severe cases were visited personally by the Medical Officer of Health in view of the occurrence of Small Pox in England. No serious epidemics occurred and the schools never suffered from closure.

The following is the record of work carried out during the year in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre :—

Number of births notified	..	..	..	..	..	520
„ (males)	..	..	..	..	..	228
„ (females)	..	..	..	..	..	253
„ stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	39
„ illegitimate births	..	..	..	..	..	10
„ infants visited at home by Health Visitor	..	..	..	..	..	518
Total home visits to infants made by Health Visitor..	..	..	..	..	..	2,955
Average number of home visits per infant	..	..	..	..	..	5.7
Home visits to children between 1-5 years	..	..	..	..	..	1,681
Clinic :—						
Number of infants under 1 year brought to Clinic	..	..	..	..	..	393
Percentage of infants born brought to Clinic	..	..	..	..	..	78.75
Number advised by Health Visitor to attend	..	..	..	..	..	250
Total number of infants and children brought to Clinic	..	..	..	..	..	598
Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	393
Between 1-2 years	..	..	..	..	..	113
„ 2-3 years	..	..	..	..	..	57
„ 3-4 years	..	..	..	..	..	25
„ 4-5 years	..	..	..	..	..	10
Total number of attendances at the Centre	..	..	..	..	..	3,597
Average number at each session	..	..	..	..	..	38.3
„ of visits per child to Centre	..	..	..	..	..	5.09
Number of individual children seen in consultation by M.O.	..	..	..	..	..	171
„ consultations given by M.O.	..	..	..	..	..	968
„ minor operations	..	..	..	..	..	27
„ children removed from district	..	..	..	..	..	74
„ children died	..	..	..	..	..	45

PEMPHIGUS NEONATORUM.

An outbreak of this disease occurred in 1925 totalling twelve cases, of which two unfortunately proved fatal. Nine cases were treated at the Clinic, and all but one recovered.

The disease, which is believed to be due to infection of the cord after ligation, is one that is readily detected, and indeed, if once seen, the diagnosis is simple, and the treatment, if carried out in the initial stage, eminently satisfactory, as the foregoing results indicate. The only case treated at the Clinic that succumbed was unfortunately too far advanced to give any hope of recovery and may thus be discounted. It is interesting to note that each case must be treated entirely on its merits, and no hard and fast rule can be followed. Some yield to mercurial ointments, others to Ichthyol, and others

to a lotion of calamine freely applied. This disease, which consists of bullæ or blisters, varying in size, commences with a small papule which ultimately becomes a vesicle not unlike a Small Pox vesicle. These usually appear at or near the navel, others appear indiscriminately about the trunk, thighs, abdomen and head, and only in the worst cases do they appear on the face. The size of the blister varies with the age of the infection. If left untreated, these blisters assume alarming proportions and may cover a whole limb. They contain a watery, milky looking fluid, and in some cases eat deeply into the tissues simulating a scald or burn, and there can be little doubt that death is due to septic toxic absorption. The great point is that early treatment is so successful, and in this connection I took the liberty of suggesting to Dr. Butterworth that we should call together the practising midwives in the district with a view to instil in their minds the necessity for early medical treatment in any new-born infant that had the slightest inflammatory condition of the skin.

The pathology of Pemphigus is as yet quite unknown, the causative organism not so far having been isolated. I took the opportunity of selecting material from these cases for the purpose of bacteriological examination, but regret I was unable to get suitable samples. It is here, however, interesting to note that from a very careful investigation of the history of this outbreak it occurred to me that this was probably a carrier disease, as all the cases happened in the practice of one midwife and ceased when she stopped practising, only to break out again soon after she had resumed, in spite of the fact that she had taken every known antiseptic precaution. Furthermore, the complaint does not appear to exist in only poor, dirty and overcrowded houses, but obtains in the cleanest houses, and in homes where every attention is given to the newly-born infant; and, indeed, all the babies infected have been full-time, well nourished and perfectly formed infants.

Notification of this disease was made compulsory on November 25th, and I am satisfied that this has been a great help in curtailing the mortality and stamping out what threatened to be a very serious outbreak. The entire staff of the Health Department has concentrated every effort in tracing cases, and a close watch and early visitation by myself and the Health Visitor has been judiciously and assiduously carried out, and I have here to tender my thanks to the School Nurse for her very great help in attending to the cases at the Clinic. It is difficult to convey to you on paper the amount of time expended on these cases and the loathsomeness of the task of attending to these unfortunate little ones.

Dressings were done twice daily (including Sundays) in severe cases, the time occupied being quite three-quarters of an hour per case, but the gratifying results obtained have amply repaid all concerned for the labour expended.

The closest co-operation with the County Authorities was maintained throughout the outbreak and Dr. Wright (Assistant County Medical Officer of Health) and Miss Wright (Inspector of Midwives) visited your Clinic on two occasions during the outbreak. The whole matter was thoroughly investigated and it was agreed that every possible measure had been taken to combat this menace. In the course of her visit Miss Wright and I visited cases in the homes, and I was able to show two mild cases in the earliest stages and to demonstrate at the Clinic our mode of treatment. It has since transpired that this disease has given cause for much anxiety in other areas, notably Manchester and London.

The above applies entirely to Pemphigus Neonatorum, but this disease apparently attacks adults as well as infants.

I was called in consultation by a practitioner in this district to see a case of a young man, aged 28 years, who had what appeared to me to be a mild attack of Pemphigus. I enquired if they had a baby in the house, and they had an infant 6 months old. I was told that this child had a few spots. I then examined the mother and found her suffering from Pemphigus; the grandmother was examined and she also had the complaint. I enquired who the midwife was who attended at birth, and was informed. It is interesting to note that this midwife was the one who had the previous cases.

No.	Name	Date of birth.	Date of onset.	No. of occup.	No. of rooms.	Occupation of father.	Name of midwife in attendance.	Remarks.
				A.	C.			
1	M.	4/7/25	9/7/25	4	5 2	B.R. Collier	Mrs. A.	10th child. Died. Doctor in attend- ance.
2	G.	9/7/25	15/7/25	2	1	Colliery	,,	2nd child. Died. Doctor in attend- ance at birth. Treated at Clinic.
3	A.	5/7/25	15/7/25	4	5 2	B.R. Rd. labourer	,,	3rd child. Re- covered. Treated at Clinic.
4	T.	2/7/25	17/7/25	2	1 2	B.R. Collier	,,	2nd child. Re- covered. Treated at Clinic. In Institution, puer- peral mania.
5	P.	4/7/25	17/7/25	2	4 2	B.R. Collier	,,	8th child. Re- covered. Treated at Clinic.
6	B.	3/7/25	17/7/25	2	3 2	B.R. Collier	,,	3rd child. Re- covered. Treated at Clinic.
7	C.	9/7/25	16/7/25	4	6 2	B.R. Collier	,,	11th child. Re- covered. Treated at Clinic.
8	P.	9/7/25	30/7/25	4	2 2	B.R. Collier	,,	1st child. Re- covered. Treated at Clinic.
*9	B.	17/9/23	20/8/25	3	1 3	B.R. Clerk	—	1st child. Re- covered. Noti- fied by M.O.H. Treated at Clinic.

* This case was the case mentioned where father, mother and grand-
mother were infected.

Annual Report for 1925 of the Sanitary Inspector.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

COUNCIL OFFICES, HINDLEY,

April, 1926.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Tenth ANNUAL REPORT on the work of the Sanitary Department for 1925.

Sanitary improvements have been effected during the year, chiefly in the form of house repairs, conversion of closets, improvements to cowsheds, dairies, etc. It has been possible to obtain thorough repairs to eleven cottages which had been condemned as unfit for habitation and thus improved accommodation to a like extent. At one period the situation seemed against these properties being saved.

The conversion of the insanitary privy and pail closets has proceeded to a larger degree, converting 202 and providing additional accommodation in six cases. A large number necessitated reconstruction of the buildings, and others not in a suitable position to warrant conversion as they existed were erected in close proximity to the properties. Greater care and supervision is exercised by the tenant when a convenient and separate W.C. is provided. Where W.C.s are in joint use there is difficulty in obtaining that standard of cleanliness so essential: one tenant throwing the responsibility on the other when, probably, there is negligence by both parties; the responsibility, therefore, in many cases is difficult to assign and any improvements are, as a rule, only temporary in character. Each house should have a separate W.C., and the responsibility for supervision and cleanliness will, I feel, be readily accepted by tenants. It has not been considered advisable to proceed with wholesale conversion of closets, and all works carried out in this direction have been done voluntarily.

From January, 1921, to 31st December, 1925, 612 closets of both types have been converted to fresh water closets. The number of privies is being reduced gradually but persistently.¹ At the present rate, however, considerable time must elapse before they are complete. In connection with the conversion of privy and pail closets, the Council carry out the drainage work and lay the water service pipe to the head of the flushing cistern free of charge to the owner as their part of the work. The system may be open to criticism, but is generally accepted as an equitable share of the conversion. It has certain advantages, for it is understood and clearly defined what is the Council's work and what is the owner's, consequently, when obtaining tenders, repairs and reconstruction of the building have not to be distinguished. The drains are laid by the Council's own men, and the water service also. There is danger, however, in laying a single water service to supply two flushing cisterns, each W.C. should possess a separate service.

The conversions carried out during the years are :—

1921	..	..	..	..	..	64
1922	..	..	..	..	..	68
1923	..	..	..	..	..	117
1924	..	..	..	..	..	161 + 8*
1925	..	..	..	..	..	202 + 6*

*Where insufficient accommodation existed.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

A general improvement in the distribution of milk has characterised the Milk and Dairies Amendment Acts of 1922, particularly with regard to cleanliness and purity. The efforts on the part of the farmers have shown marked improvement in this direction during recent years and the order has assisted materially. The dairyman is realising that good ventilation of buildings, ample air space and light, impervious floors and walls, etc., mean much to the environment and health of the cow, and that cleanliness is another important factor which leads to a better milk supply. In every case the farmer is the person responsible for any insanitary conditions and we naturally endeavour to co-operate with him for their elimination. He has appreciated our efforts and conditions have been vastly improved.

The whole of the dairy farms within the district, numbering twenty-five, were inspected and reported upon and general improvements effected to cowsheds, dairies, yards and drainage systems, and their conditions are now of a comparatively high standard. I give a summary of such improvements at the farms used for dairy purposes :—

1. *Barlow's Farm, Close Lanes.*—2,955 square feet of the yard surface paved with setts and the drainage diverted from pond to covered cesspool.

2. *Owen's Farm, Smith's Lane*.—126 square feet at rear of house and 96 square feet of yard concreted. Drains run to covered cesspool. A room originally used as a pantry has been converted to a dairy.

3. *Leigh Road Farm*.—348 square feet of yard surface in front of shippon paved with setts. New middenstead erected.

4. *Grosvenor Farm, Platt Lane*.—A new cowshed to accommodate twenty head of cattle has been erected; the floors are of smooth concrete and the light and ventilation is sufficient and of modern type. A cooling room is attached; this building also is an additional improvement. Paths to shippon have been concreted and the yard surface has been improved to the extent of 1,080 square feet of sett paving. There is a town's supply of water laid on to trough outside. Dairy used exclusively as a dairy. Closet converted.

5. *Harrison House Farm*.—Light and ventilation of cowsheds improved. New cesspool constructed. New middenstead erected, suitably paved and drained. Yard surface repaired. A new W.C. has been erected and the old privy dismantled.

6. *Abbott's Farm, Swan Lane*.—Privy converted to W.C. Light and ventilation improved. Floor of shippon repaved. Not more than three cows being kept. Dairy used for storage of milk only.

7. *Ash Tree Farm, Atherton Road*.—Yard surface paved with setts. Light and ventilation of shippon improved.

8. *Smith's Farm, Atherton Road*.—Yard surface paved with setts.

9. *Ivy Farm, Atherton Road*.—Light and ventilation improved. Floor of shippon concreted. Part of yard surface paved.

10. *Castle Hill Farm*.—Gullies removed to outside of cowshed.

11. *Hill Top Farm*.—This cowshed has been reconstructed, more light and ventilation has been installed, and accommodation provided for four more head of cattle in the one shippon by the demolition of a wall (behind which was a loose box). Sufficient light and ventilation of the right type is now available. The yard surface has been improved by the laying of 140 square feet of sett paving.

12. *Leyland Farm*.—The yard surface has been repaved with 2,220 square feet of sett paving. New dairy constructed.

13. *Intack Farm*.—Cowsheds have been reconstructed. Cesspool constructed and drainage system reconstructed. Yard surface paved with setts. New middenstead provided. Privy converted to W.C.

14. *Hall Farm, Leigh Road*.—Cowshed floors concreted. Yard surface paved with setts. New concrete middenstead erected ; also new dairy.

15. *Cranby Nook Farm*.—A new cowshed (brick structure), suitably lighted, ventilated and drained, to accommodate nine head of cattle has been constructed.

16. *Aldred's Farm*.—A new middenstead has been constructed, suitably paved and drained. Privy converted to W.C.

17. *Pennygate Farm*.—Cowshed floors concreted. Light and ventilation improved. Drainage system constructed. Yard surface paved with setts.

18. *Wade's Farm, Close Lanes*.—705 square feet of yard surface paved with setts.

19. *Long Lane Farm*.—Cowshed floors concreted. Light and ventilation improved. Middenstead erected. Privy converted to W.C.

20. *Hollins Farm*.—Dairy erected. Yard surface paved with setts.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

These premises, of which there are five in the district, are situated: two in Central, one North, one South, and one West Wards. They are well-kept and limewashed in accordance with Regulations, viz., four times during the year.

Two of the buildings were not used for slaughtering during the year. The class of meat slaughtered and that retailed within the district is of good quality.

MEAT INSPECTION: THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT)

REGULATIONS, 1924.

Notice of slaughter has assisted materially in facilitating inspection at the slaughter-house and saved the time of the Inspector generally. Hitherto, special visits were paid which often resulted in one or more subsequent visits owing to delays in connection with slaughtering. Knowing the time enables the staff to arrange visiting so as to be in the vicinity about the time stated, which obviates the necessity of a special and fruitless visit.

All Market stalls have been made to conform to the Regulations.

Shops are visited and inspections made weekly where supplies are obtained from out-districts. The amount of meat, etc., condemned and destroyed during the year is as follows:—

Fish	..	..	..	..	..	103 lbs.
Meat	..	..	..	..	..	1,095 „
Ox tails	..	..	..	..	..	60 „

One butcher was charged and summoned for having diseased meat for sale on his premises. He was fined £5 and costs. This meat was imported from a neighbouring township.

The Tuberculosis Order has also had a bearing on the quality of meat sold generally and has affected the illicit trading in diseased meat to a considerable extent.

Indiscriminate farmers now find it difficult to dispose of an affected animal for human food, which has resulted in a large number of these animals being removed to the knacker yard, which might previously have found their way into the shops.

HOUSING ACTS.

It has not been possible to devote the time necessary to Housing on account of the many duties undertaken. 205 houses have been inspected under the above Acts, the defects recorded and owner notified; these, generally speaking, received attention. Repairs are receiving prompter response to Notices and measures of a stringent character are seldom necessary. Neglect or inattention by owners or agents to execute repairs to the fabric of the building is usually against their interests as small matters are allowed to become large and thus increase the costs. If it is laid before them in this light it is customary to get a quick response. Efforts have been made to save all the houses which could possibly be rendered fit for human habitation with the result that three blocks of property containing eleven houses have been so repaired as to give a new lease of life to the cottages. In these cases Closing Orders had been served, and were operative, but by persuasive power and influence we are able to report reclamation. Houses are required and we have endeavoured to avoid taking steps for the closure of any properties that may be suitably restored. One house, however, has been closed and the tenants removed during the year on account of the dangerous condition of the gable wall owing to mining subsidence. When the ground has settled thoroughly it may be possible to reclaim this also.

RAG AND BONE DEALERS.

The 1925 Act has brought a desired improvement in the collection of rags and bones. We had often evidence of the grave risk run by children from this source, rags and bones in all conditions of filth being handled with sweets and toys. The dealers complained of the hardships they would suffer on account of the Act, but all have come in line, and there is a decided improvement in collection—the exchange now being for stone and sand.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS.

Several important improvements with regard to these buildings have been dealt with, and although it seems to be the general inclination of owners to maintain the buildings, with special reference to light and ventilation and cleanliness, in a thoroughly sanitary condition, the depression in trade has been responsible for the deferring of many structural improvements and alterations.

We have been instrumental in having the following improvements carried out :—

- (a) Two mills have installed modern water closets with intervening ventilated space to the exclusion of directly communicated conveniences. One of the firms has installed suitable white glazed wash basins to each floor.
- (b) Defective and insanitary privies in two cases have been converted, at one of which additional accommodation has been provided.
- (c) Minor improvements, which space prevents me enumerating have been carried out at a number of workshops. These are in the form of additional accommodation where both sexes are employed, conversion of privies, cleansing, repairs, light and ventilation, etc.

Other minor defects on being brought to the notice of the owners were remedied immediately.

SALE OF FOODS AND DRUGS ACT.

I am indebted to Superintendent Banister for the following list of samples submitted for analysis by his staff. The County Council take all samples under the Acts. It is interesting to observe that all samples were genuine :—

Irish Whisky	..	..	..	..	..	2
Scotch Whisky	..	..	..	..	..	1
Milk	..	..	..	..	..	45
Ground ginger	..	..	..	..	..	6
Pepper	..	..	..	..	..	4
Arrowroot	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cheese	..	..	..	..	..	2
Butter	..	..	..	..	..	2
Margarine	..	..	..	..	..	3
Lard	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rice	..	..	..	..	..	1
Jam	..	..	..	..	..	2
Ground almonds	..	..	..	..	..	1
Coffee	..	..	..	..	..	4
Tea	..	..	..	..	..	1
Castor oil	..	..	..	..	..	1
Glycerine	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cod liver oil	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total						81

All the samples were genuine.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Each house was visited immediately on receipt of notification and all information obtained as to possible source of infection, contacts being kept under observation until the incubation period had elapsed. All available means of isolation of the patient were considered and, if found unsatisfactory, removed to hospital. There were twenty-one cases of Scarlet Fever removed to Sandy Lane and one young child of eleven months was removed to Leigh Joint Hospital. Of the seven cases of Diphtheria notified, three were removed to Leigh Joint Hospital.

Disinfection of the schools was also carried out.

Three methods of disinfecting are in use, the chief method used is the spray with a solution of 5 per cent. Formaldehyde, which has been found to be very effective. Occasionally Formic Vap lamps are used. Sulphur candles being employed for the verminous house. All articles of clothing, etc., are removed to the steam disinfector in the Gas Yard.

PICTURE HALLS.

Your officials paid periodical visits to the three picture halls during the year, and it was necessary to draw the owner's attention to minor insanitary conditions therein, which were immediately remedied. Two are excellent halls, the ventilation, heating, sanitary accommodation and structure generally are modern, and the cleansing is all that can be desired. The other is on the first floor, and is efficiently kept, the fire exits are good and the hall can be cleared from three sides. Sanitary accommodation, heating and ventilation are satisfactory.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

Nuisances brought forward from 1924	..	..	..	528
„ reported to Committee during 1925	..	..	..	1256
„ abated during 1925	..	..	..	1597
Number of dwelling-houses inspected under Section 17,				
Housing and Town Planning Act	..			205
„ letters sent	..	..	..	428
„ preliminary notices	..	..	..	46
„ statutory notices	..	..	..	32
„ limewashing and cleansing	..	..	..	33
„ school notices	..	..	..	72
„ parents' notices	..	..	..	11
„ houses disinfected	..	..	..	80
„ articles disinfected	..	..	..	1488
„ schools disinfected	..	..	..	12
„ inspections to workshops and workplaces	..			215
„ „ bakehouses	..	..	..	63
„ „ slaughter-houses	..	..	..	321
„ „ dairies and cowsheds	..	..	..	143
„ „ offensive trades	..	..	..	30

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Choked and defective drains	..	..	..	130
„ broken gullies	..	..	..	10
Defective and insanitary sinks and waste pipes	..			9
Burst water service pipes	..	..	..	79
Defective flushing cisterns	..	..	..	23
Absence of and insufficient water supply	..	..	..	32
Defective windows, doors and frames	..	..	..	11
„ ceilings	..	..	..	1

HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	16
(b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme ..	16

1. Unfit dwelling-houses :—

Inspection :

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	657
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.. .. .	205
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	653

2. Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notice :—

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	296
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OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two such trades established within the district, a knacker yard and a tripe works. The former is in the fields off Atherton Road. We had complaints of offensive odours emanating from the works. These were evidently due to a digester which worked intermittently, and steps were taken to prevent its use until the fumes were conveyed to the boiler where they were heated and condensed before being emitted from the chimney. The yard surface has been repaved and the slaughter-house floor concreted.

The tripe works, Atherton Road, is immediately behind the property. Complaints of the offensive odours from these works are frequently made by the neighbours. Efforts are made to keep the place clean but the offence emanates during the process of boiling.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Sixteen observations were made during the year, and in six cases the maximum emission was slightly exceeded. It was only necessary to warn the offenders.

Complaints were received from several residents in the vicinity of the L. M. and S. Railway Station, Hindley, of the nuisance from the engines. The Company were communicated with and no further complaints have been received from this quarter.

The number of steam-raising firms in the district is 12.

Number of boilers and other furnaces 52.

Number of chimneys 18.

TENTS, VANS AND SHED DWELLINGS.

We have been able to keep the district fairly clear of these undesirable dwellings.

THOS. FRANCE,

Sanitary Inspector.

COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

URBAN DISTRICT OF HINDLEY.

SUMMARY of the particulars required by the Ministry of Health Circular 648, dated 10th December, 1925, to be included in the

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the Year 1925.

1.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres, 2,612·21. Population: Census 1921, 24,850; estimated 1925, 24,930.

Physical features and general character of the area: Generally undulating and low-lying. Clay subsoil; sub-strata coal. Large areas under water due to mining subsidence and aggregation of dirt heaps.

Number of inhabited houses (Census 1921), 4,957.

Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1921), 5,507.

Rateable value £86,969 1s. 3d. Sum represented by a penny rate, £350.

Social conditions, including the chief occupations of the inhabitants: Entirely industrial. Chief occupations: Cotton spinning and weaving, coal mining.

The influence of any particular occupation on public health: Nothing to note.

VITAL STATISTICS.

			<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Births in 1925	..	..	499	242	257
Deaths in 1925	..	..	305	148	157

Rates per 1,000 of Population.

	<i>Birth-</i>	<i>Death-</i>	<i>Death-rate from</i>	<i>Rate of deaths</i>
	<i>rate.</i>	<i>rate.</i>	<i>Tuberculosis of</i>	<i>under 1 year</i>
			<i>Resp. System.</i>	<i>to 1,000 Births.</i>
Mean of 10 years, 1915-1924	23·1	15·25	·78	120·5
1924	19·1	12·1	0·72	86
1925	20·0	12·2	·56	90
Increase or decrease in 1925 on—				
Ten years' average ..	—3·1	—3·05	—0·22	—30·5
Previous year	+0·9	+0·1	—0·16	+4·0

The amount of Poor Law relief ; the extent to which hospital and other forms of gratuitous medical relief are utilised : The public avail themselves largely of facilities offered by the Manchester Hospitals and Wigan Infirmary. Out-relief granted 1925, £5,357 18s. 11d. to 341 cases ; average per case, £15 14s. 6½d.

Any causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the period under review ; and any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health : Predominance of respiratory disease, *i.e.*, Pneumonia and Bronchitis, probably mainly due to environmental conditions afore-mentioned.

2.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospital accommodation provided or available : For Smallpox, satisfactory arrangements with Leigh Joint Hospital ; where situate, Leigh (four miles). For other Infectious Diseases, 16 beds ; where situate, Hindley. If you have the joint use of Isolation Hospital belonging to some other Authority, state nature of agreement, or arrangement. Is any retaining fee paid ? No. Number of beds available for your district : For Smallpox, as required ; for other Infectious Diseases, 16.

Is there any Hospital Accommodation in the district for—(a) Tuberculosis, No (County). (b) Maternity Cases. No (2 beds, S. Mary's Hospital, Manchester). (c) Children. No.

Give postal address of Union Infirmary and any other Public Institution in district : Billinge Hospital (Wigan Union).

Have any of the following been provided in your district ? :—Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless

children : No. Maternity and Child Welfare Centres : White House, Liverpool Road. Give day and time open : Open daily, 2-5 p.m. Day Nursery : No. School Clinic : Yes. Tuberculosis Dispensary : No (Wigan) ; under County Authority. Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre : Wigan Infirmary (special department).

Ambulance facilities :—(a) For Infectious Cases : Maxwell motor ambulance. (b) For Non-infectious and Accident Cases : Ford motor ambulance.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health : Robert Kay Nisbet. Salary (including bonus) as M.O.H. at 31/12/1925, £250. Is he a whole or part-time Officer ? : Part-time at present. Any other public appointments held by him ? : Police Surgeon.

Sanitary Inspector : Thomas France. Salary (including bonus) as Inspector at 31/12/1925, £342. Is he a whole time Officer ? : Yes.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector : None.

Any Specialised Inspector (*e.g.*, Food Inspector) ? Carried out by Sanitary Inspector.

Any other Public Health Officers, such as Health Visitors and Special Nurses ; if any, give names, salaries, diplomas or certificates, or qualifications, and any other public offices held by them : Health Visitor, Ellen Gregory, C.M.B. ; School Nurse, Kate Barton, trained Liverpool Hospital and C.M.B.

Professional Nursing in the Home. Nature of arrangements in the district for—(a) General Nursing : Hindley Sick Nursing Association (one nurse) ; (b) For Infectious Diseases, *e.g.*, Measles, etc. : None.

Is there a District Nursing Association in the district ? : Yes. How many District Nurses employed ? One. If so, does any arrangement exist between the Council and the Association in respect of Child Welfare Work ? : No. If no such arrangement exists, does the Association voluntarily undertake Child Welfare Work ? No. Does the Association undertake—(a) Midwifery Cases ? No ; (b) Monthly Nursing ? No.

Has any local scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and of Milk for Infants ? Food

supplied gratis from voluntary fund at the Welfare Centre to necessitous cases ; other cases at cost price.

Midwives.—Is any midwife employed by or assisted by the Local Authority ? No. Number of midwives on the County Council Register, 31/12/1925 : Number on register, 12 ; number actually practising, 12. Any comments as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the midwifery service ? Sufficient.

Legislation in force. Specify any—Local Acts : None. Local Orders : None. General Adoptive Acts : Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (1911) ; Public Health Amendment Act, 1907 (Sections adopted 1909). Bye-laws relating to Public Health : Nuisances (1886) ; Slaughter-houses (1886) ; New Streets and Buildings (1886) ; Common Lodging-houses (1886) ; Houses Let-in-lodgings (1886) ; Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops (1905). Observations as to their administration : Paving of Back Yards (adopted 1912) ; Tents, Vans and Shed Dwellings (1912) ; Offensive Trades (1912) ; Ice Cream Manufacture and Sale (1914) ; Streets and Buildings (revised 1925).

Particulars as to co-operation with—The Medical and Ancillary Services of the National Health Insurance : None. The Voluntary Hospitals : Subscription of £50 allocated to Manchester Hospitals. The Poor Law or other Agencies : None.

3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply—Source and quality : Rivington (Liverpool Corporation) ; good. Constant or intermittent : Constant. Approximate number of dwelling-houses supplied : Direct, all except few houses in fields ; by stand pipe, none. Possibilities of contamination : Nil. Any liability to plumbo-solvent action : No. Any insufficiency, and where : No. Nature of extensions (if any) during the year : To Housing Scheme.

Rivers and Streams—Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams, sources and nature : Offenders warned of chemical pollution, and same abated.

Drainage and Sewerage—Sewage Disposal Works, method of treatment : Septic tanks and contact beds. What is the character of the Drainage System, any developments during year : Two sewage farms ; well pump station and ejectors installed at Platt Bridge. Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system : Few properties in outlying areas. Action taken—drain testing, flushing, etc. : Periodically flushed in summer months ; smoke machine and volatile substances.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1925 :—

Privy middens : No. of middens	1008	No. of closets attached to these	
No. of pail closets	 711	middens	 1669
No. of fresh water closets	.. 2281	No. of dry ashpits (excluding	
No. of waste water closets	.. 19	middens)	 52
		No. of movable ashbins for refuse	2945
		<i>During year</i>	<i>During 5 years</i>
Conversions—		1925.	1921–1925.
No. of privy closets—to fresh W.C.'s	..	173	.. 519
to waste W.C.'s	..	—	.. —
to pails, etc.	.. ..	—	.. —
No. of pail closets—to fresh W.C.'s	.. ..	29	.. 99
to waste W.C.'s	..	—	.. —
No. of waste W.C.'s to fresh W.C.'s	.. ..	—	.. —
No. of houses at which movable ashbins have			
been substituted for fixed receptacles	..	202	.. 519

Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing privy middens and pail closets ? To convert as rapidly as possible immediately new pumping station is completed and able to deal with sewage.

Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion ? Yes. If so, how much ? Drains and water service installed.

What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for new property ? Fresh water closets.

Scavenging—Character and efficiency of the arrangements for Scavenging and Removal and Disposal of House Refuse for whole of district : Manual labour scavenging. Efficient. Disposal, covered carts and motors. Tips in subsided outlying areas. How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses) ? Sanitary Authority, except Platt Bridge and Hindley Green, which districts are let by contract. Are motor vehicles used ? One Ford Truxton, rest carts. If Privy Middens exist, are they emptied by day or night ? Day. How is the refuse disposed of ? Tips. Has a Destructor been provided ? No.

Sanitary Inspections during 1925—Number of premises visited, 843. Defects or nuisances : Number discovered 1,256 ; number abated 1,597. Number of Notices served : Informal 46 ; Statutory 32. Legal proceedings : None.

Smoke Nuisance—Any special action taken with regard to smoke abatement : Observations taken periodically ; six offenders warned. Number of observations, 16 ; number of legal proceedings taken and result, none. What

is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour ? Five minutes.

Offensive Trades : Number, two ; character, Tripe Works and Knacker Yard. Action taken or needed : Observation kept.

Workshops and Workplaces—What is their condition ? Fairly good.

Common Lodging-houses : None in district.

Houses Let-in-lodgings—Action taken or needed : None in district.

Schools : Sanitary condition, good ; water supply, etc., sufficient.

Canal Boats : Number inspected, none ; number of infringements of Acts, none.

4.—HOUSING.

HOUSING : GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.

(I.) General Housing Conditions in the Area :—

- (1) General housing conditions : Isolated cases of overcrowding ; otherwise good.
- (2) (a) Extent of shortage or excess of houses : Slight shortage.
(b) Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage : Further schemes under consideration.
- (3) Information as to any important changes in population during the period under review or anticipated in the future : Fairly stationary.

(II.) Overcrowding :—

- (1) Extent : Few isolated cases.
- (2) Causes : Residents working in other districts.
- (3) Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding : Closing Orders determined after suitable alterations to eleven houses.
- (4) Principal cases of overcrowding during the year 1925, and action taken : Five cases observed Alternative accommodation found in three cases.

(III.) Fitness of Houses :—

- (1) (a) General standard of housing in the area : For an industrial area, good, comparatively speaking. (b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses : Defective roof, eaves-spouts, plaster and general defects, together with insufficient sanitary appliances. (c) How far defects are due to the lack of proper management and supervision by owners, or to acts of waste or neglect by tenants : Fifty-fifty ; circulars issued to occupiers relative to exercise of care and cleanliness *re* drains, W.C.'s, etc.

- (2) General action taken as regards unfit houses under—(a) The Public Health Acts : Interview owner or agent if within easy reach with a view to remedial measures being taken, followed by letter or Preliminary Notice and subsequently Statutory Notice under Section 94. (b) The Housing Acts : Same procedure as above ; Notices, Section 15, Housing Act.
- (3) Difficulties found in remedying unfitness, either under the Public Health Acts or under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 : Inability of landlords to meet costs. Special measures taken or suggested —(a) Any special action to secure improved management of property by owners : No. (b) Better care of property by tenants : Tenants advised as to care, by leaflet from Health Department. (c) The gradual carrying out of repairs according to agreed arrangements : Satisfactory. (d) Any special method of dealing with unfit back-to-back houses, or other types of insanitary property : As occasion permits conversion to through type carried out.
- (4) Conditions so far as they affect housing, as regards —(a) Water supply : Good (sufficient supply). (b) Closet accommodation : Moderately good. (c) Refuse disposal : Satisfactory. (d) Measures taken during 1925 as regards (a), (b) and (c) : (a) None required. (b) Conversions 202 + 6 where insufficiency existed. (c) Ashpits being dismantled and replaced with suitable covered galvanised ashbins.

(IV.) Unhealthy Areas :—

Information as to complaints received or representations made and action taken, in regard to unhealthy areas : None.

(V.) Bye-laws relating to Houses, to Houses Let-in-Lodgings, and to Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. :—

- (1) As to working of existing bye-laws : Housing Bye-laws revised 1925. Houses let-in-lodgings, none in district. Tents, vans, sheds, etc., none in district.
- (2) As to the need for new bye-laws or revision of existing bye-laws : Streets and Buildings Bye-laws recently revised.

(VI.) General and Miscellaneous :—

Generally, an account of any action bearing on the public health, not covered by the above particulars, which has been taken during the year by the Local Authority in connection with overcrowding, insanitary property, and housing, whether

under the Housing Acts or the Public Health Acts, including any action taken by the Authority to provide information as to the proper use of household fittings (*e.g.*, sinks, water closets, etc.) and the disposal of household refuse so far as possible by burning: Interviews with colliery owners *re* burning heaps and special attention given to same in an endeavour to secure a remedy. New pumping station for sewage which will enable speeding up of conversions. Leaflets issued to tenants *re* care of sinks and general sanitary utensils.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

No. of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	..	16
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—		
(i.) By the Local Authority	..	14
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	..	Nil

No. of houses in course of erection under Council's building scheme .. 26

Financial assistance for purposes of increasing housing accommodation Nil

Unfit Dwelling-houses—

Inspection :

(1) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	657
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ..	205
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	4
(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3)) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.. .. .	653

Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices—

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal
action by the Local Authority or their officers 296

Action under Statutory Powers—

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
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(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	Nil
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	280
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	280
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	4
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	4
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit..	11
(4) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
(5) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1

D.—No. of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, etc.	Nil
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5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.—Observations on—

- (1) The wholesomeness of the milk produced within or brought into the district : Forty-five samples were taken by the County Authority. All were satisfactory.
- (2) The general adequacy of the arrangements for the supply and distribution of milk of pure and wholesome character : Adequate.

- (3) The administration of The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and The Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders: Farms periodically inspected by Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923—No. of dealers' licences issued during 1925 in respect of: "Certified" milk, none; "Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)" milk, none; "Grade A" milk, none. No. of licences issued in respect of "Pasteurised" milk: Pasteurising plants, none; retail distributors, three. Types of apparatus licensed for the pasteurisation of milk: None in area. Any refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk, with reasons for the refusal or revocation: No applications.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected? Yes. What is their condition? Hygienic and sanitary. Give date of the Regulations made under the Order of the L.G.B.: 1905. Are they enforced? Yes. Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow: (a) Where cows are habitually grazed, 700 cubic feet; (b) Where cows are not habitually grazed, 800 cubic feet. Cowkeepers: Total No. of cowkeepers, 23; No. on register, 23; No. of inspections during year, 143. Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than cowkeepers): Total No. of dairymen or milk purveyors (other than cowkeepers), 5; No. on register, 5. Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows? Give particulars: Arrangements with Mr. Wood, F.R.C.V.S., Wigan, when required. Action taken as to—(i.) Tuberculous milk: Periodical inspection of animals; (ii.) Tuberculous cattle: Periodical inspection of animals. No. of samples of milk obtained during 1925 for bacteriological examination: None.

(b) Meat.—Observations on—

- (1) Meat inspection (including arrangements for inspection at the time of slaughter and for marking under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924; disease in meat and arrangements for disposal of condemned meat: Notification satisfactory. All carcasses inspected. Principally T.B. Disposal—cremated at Gasworks.
- (2) Administration of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as regards stalls, shops, stores, and vehicles: Ventilation of many shops improved. Steps taken to avoid contamination. Stalls covered on three sides. Vehicles up to standard.
- (3) Has a public slaughter-house been provided? No.

Private slaughter-houses :—

	In 1920.		In Jan., 1925.		In Dec., 1925.	
No. registered ..	5	..	4	..	4	
No. licensed ..	1	..	1	..	1	
Total ..	6	..	5	..	5	

(c) Other Foods :—

Action taken in respect of places where food is prepared—Bakehouses : Number, 35 ; condition, satisfactory. Other premises : Periodically inspected ; satisfactory. Amount of food condemned or surrendered during 1925 as unfit for human consumption—Tuberculous carcasses and parts : 1,095 lbs. Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat (other than above) : 60 lbs. Other foodstuffs : Fish, 103 lbs. Number of legal proceedings and result : One butcher fined £5 and costs for having diseased meat for sale. Food poisoning—action taken (if any) : None ; no action necessary. Action taken by Local Authority (if any) in respect of—(i.) Sale of Food and Drugs Acts : Carried out by County officials. (ii.) Condensed Milk Regs., 1923 : Observed. (iii.) Dried Milk Regs., 1923 : Observed. (iv.) Milk and Cream Regs., 1912–17 : Observed.

6.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

Scarlet Fever epidemic shows marked decrease on previous five years. 1915-1920, notifications approximate annual average of 142 ; 1921-1925 : notifications approximate annual average of 60. Diphtheria average previous five years = 32 per annum ; for 1921-1925 = 18 per annum. Enteric Fever average for 1915-1920 = 4·4 per annum ; for 1921-1925 = 3·4 per annum. No cases of Enteric Fever notified during 1925. No outstanding features to indicate mode of spread.

Diphtheria anti-toxin.—Notes on the supply and prompt use : Supplied to practitioners free, and used early. Is the supply kept within the district : Yes. If so, where ? Council Offices and Clinic.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—Any special occurrence : No.

Scarlet Fever.—Discovery of “ return ” cases : None.

Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, and Trench Fever.—Experience in regard to these diseases : Pneumonia, seasonal incidence ; Malaria, Dysentery and Trench Fever, none noted.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations—Arrangements : Clinical Research Association. Number of specimens examined in 1925 : Blood, 2 ; Sputum, 8 ; Throat Swabs, 22 ; Swabs for Ophthalmia Neonatorum, none ; Others, Swabs from Pemphigus blisters. Action taken in regard to (a) Contacts, (b) Return cases, (c) Carrier cases : (a) Isolated ; (b) None ; (c) None.

Has any use been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases ? No.

Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.—Number of Vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health : (a) Primary, none ; (b) Re-vaccinations, none.

If any of the following diseases are compulsorily notifiable in your district, state for what period (see table on page 64)—Measles : No ; Whooping Cough : No ; Diarrhoea (under 2 years) : No ; Chicken-pox : Yes, twelve months ; Any others : Pemphigus made notifiable from September, 1925, for a period of twelve months. Observations : Measles and Whooping Cough notified from Schools and visited by Health Visitor. Certificates given when free from infection.

Number of times School Closure adopted during 1925 for—Scarlet Fever, Nil ; Whooping Cough : Nil ; Diphtheria : Nil ; Chicken-pox : Nil ; Measles : Nil ; Influenza : Nil.

Number of Reports made during 1925 under Section 14 (4) Sanitary Officers Order, 1922—Subject of Reports : Pemphigus.

Influenza.—Observations on any special inquiries undertaken in connection with epidemics : Not required.

Has any special attention been given to—(a) Cancer, (b) Locally Contracted Anthrax, and (c) Rabies ? (a) Yes, (b) No (no cases occurred), (c) No.

Disinfection.—Number of houses disinfected during 1925 : 80. Method (state disinfectant used) : Spray Formaldehyde. Are houses disinfected after—(a) Phthisis : Yes ; (b) Measles : No. Apparatus used for clothing, bedding, etc. (steam or otherwise) : Steam, Washington Lyons. Number of articles disinfected : 1,488. Where is apparatus situated ? Gas Yard, Cross Street, Hindley. If apparatus at hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., of patients not removed to the hospital? If not, please state how disinfection of clothing, etc., in these cases is carried out : Removed to Gas Yard. Any arrangement for bathing verminous, etc., persons ? None. In how many instances has disinfestation been carried out ? 9.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1925.

“ Notifiable ” Diseases.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.											Hospital.		Total Deaths.	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	YEARS.										Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.		
		Un-der 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45				45 to 65	65 & over
Small-pox	31	1	..	2	5	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	22	..	1
Scarlet Fever	7	..	..	1	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1
Diphtheria, including Memb. Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever, including Paratyphoid	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ..	99	14	10	11	7	16	4	2	16	5	6	6	..	..	38
Puerperal Fever	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	3
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Acute Polio-encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	19	..	..	..	..	2	2	1	1	4	7	2	..	..	14
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	16	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	5	1	6	..	..	..	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	12	..	..	1	..	2	2	2	4	1	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria, contracted in this country	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abroad	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Any other diseases non-notifiable in district, <i>e.g.</i> :—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
*Chicken-pox	119	7	6	7	7	76	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Measles, excluding German Measles	87	1	2	8	3	60	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Whooping Cough	58	7	5	7	7	25	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Any other disease—Pemphigus ..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Totals	459	35	23	37	30	202	20	9	30	13	20	8	25	..	69

*Notifiable from 1st July, 1923 ; period extended to 1st July, 1926.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1925.†

Age—Periods.	NEW CASES.				*DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1- 5 „ ..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
5-10 „ ..	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	..
10-15 „ ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
15-20 „ ..	2	1	1	1	1	2	..	1
20-25 „ ..	1	3	1	2	2	..	..	..
25-35 „ ..	1	..	1	..	3	1	..	..
35-45 „ ..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	1
45-55 „ ..	2	2	..	..	1	..	..	..
55-65 „ ..	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8	8	7	5	9	5	1	2
Totals	16		12		14		3	

*The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar-General.

†What is the ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths? 5·9. In your opinion, is the notification of Tuberculosis in your district efficient? Yes. Has any action been taken in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify? Not required. Is there any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district? No.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

Any action taken under these Regulations (Articles 3, 5, 6 and 7) relating to Tuberculous employees in the milk trade: One case of a boy delivering milk; suspended.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

Any action taken under this Section: None required.

7.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Ministry of Health state the Medical Officer's Report should include information on:—

- (1) The general arrangements made for attending to the health of expectant and nursing mothers and of children under five years of age, including the work of Health Visitors, Midwives, and Nurses: Advice given at Welfare Centre (two sessions weekly). Visits at home from Health Visitor. Sufficient number of trained Midwives in district. One Trained and C.M.B. Nurse and one C.M.B. Nurse at treatment centre under direction of Medical Officer of Health.
- (2) Consultation and Treatment Centres: White House Clinic and Welfare Centre.
- (3) Maternity Homes and Hospitals and other Institutions for the reception of expectant and nursing mothers and young children as in-patients: Arrangements made with St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, for selected cases.
- (4) The Incidence of Maternal Mortality and Investigations into Maternal Deaths, Still-births, and Infant Deaths: 7 maternal deaths in 499 births. 3 Puerperal Septicæmia; two died in hospital, one at home. Doctor in attendance at all cases. Remaining 4: Acute Mastitis 1, Eclampsia 1, Embolism 1, P.P. Hæmorrhage 1. Each case investigated and report filed. Still-births 39. Causes: Premature birth; twins; difficult labour and abnormalities of child. Infant deaths: Congenital Debility and Respiratory diseases.
- (5) The development of Ante-Natal Work at Centres and in connection with the Midwifery Service where this has proved practicable: Ante-natal consultations encouraged and number of consultations increasing. Midwives advise patients to attend Clinic for advice. 55 ante-natal consultations given. Three recommended for caesarian section, which was performed successfully in hospital.
- (6) Methods of dealing with unmarried mothers and illegitimate children and with children permanently or temporarily deprived of a home with their own parents: None in operation.
- (7) The arrangements for the Supply of Food and Milk: Dried milk supplied from Centre at cost price. Free in necessitous cases from voluntary fund.
- (8) The arrangements for Orthopædic Treatment in areas in which such treatment is provided for children under 5 years of age: Co-operation with Manchester Pendlebury Children's Hospital. Highly satisfactory results obtained.

- (9) The work of Voluntary Societies in the area in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare and the place occupied by each in the Local Authority's scheme : None.
- (10) The co-ordination of all the Work under this sub-section with the School Medical Service : Medical Officer of Health is School Medical Officer.
- (11) Observations on the Incidence of Puerperal Fever, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Measles, Whooping Cough, Epidemic Diarrhœa, Poliomyelitis, and other Infectious Diseases of parturient women, infants, and young children, and the methods adopted to diminish the mortality and permanent injury to health caused by these diseases, and the results achieved by these methods—Puerperal Fever : 3 cases, all died, two in hospital. Ophthalmia Neonatorum : 2 cases treated at Clinic and recovered. Measles and Whooping Cough : Notified from schools and home visited by Health Visitor. Epidemic Diarrhœa : Kill the Fly leaflets issued. Poliomyelitis : 1 case notified (report forwarded). Parturient women, etc. : See page .

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

DETAILS SHOULD BE GIVEN FOR ALL COUNTY DISTRICTS IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE OF EACH CASE OF OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM NOTIFIED DURING 1925.

CASES.			Vision Un- impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified (See Table, page .)	Treated.					
	At Home.	InHospital.				
Two	..	Clinic	Yes	..	..	None

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1925 : New Pumping Station at Platt Bridge Sewage Works. Increased conversions. Provision of ashbins and abolition of middens. Repaving of main roads.

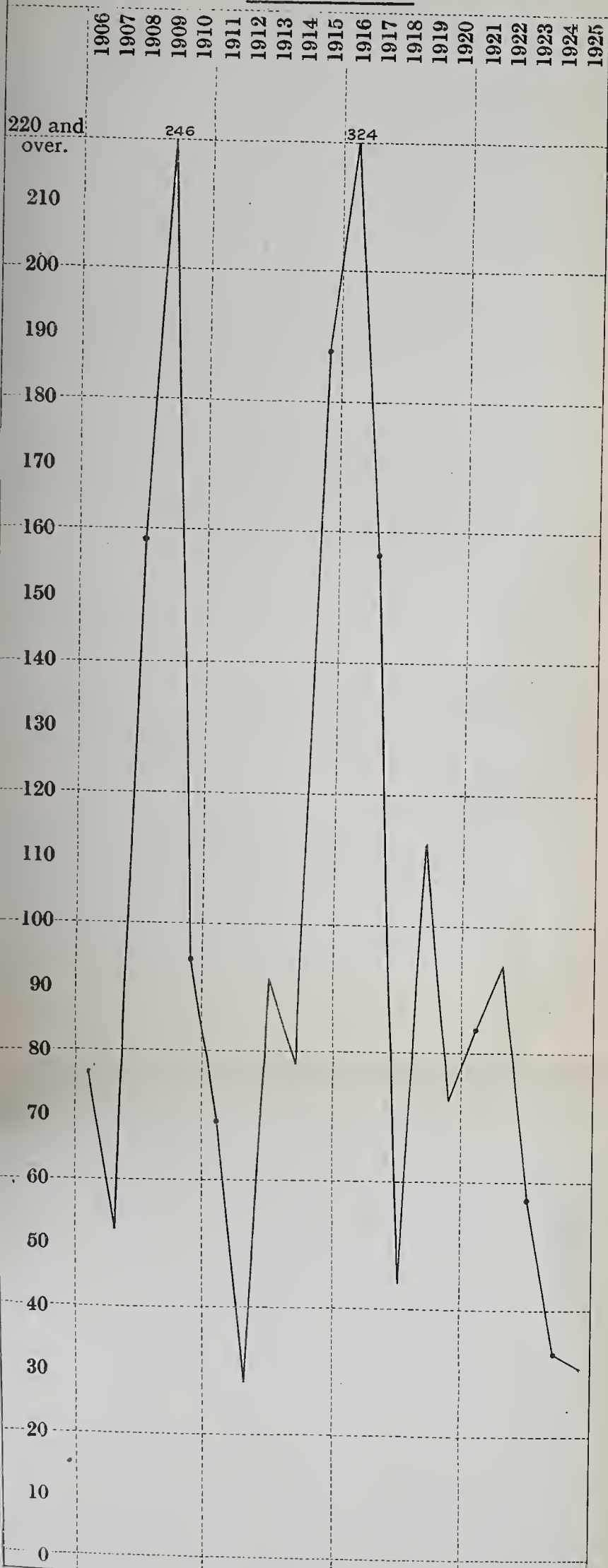
Chief Sanitary Requirements of District : Public abattoir and refuse destructor.

(Signed) R. KAY NISBET,

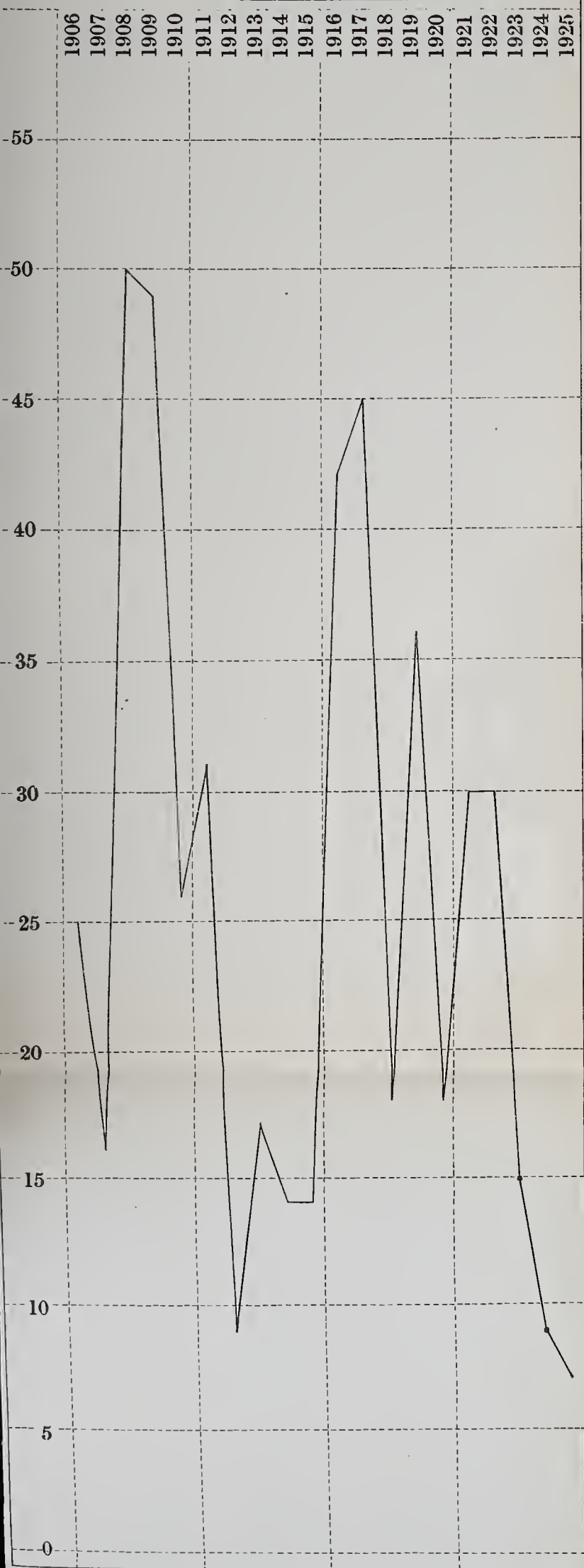
Medical Officer of Health.

March 31st, 1926.

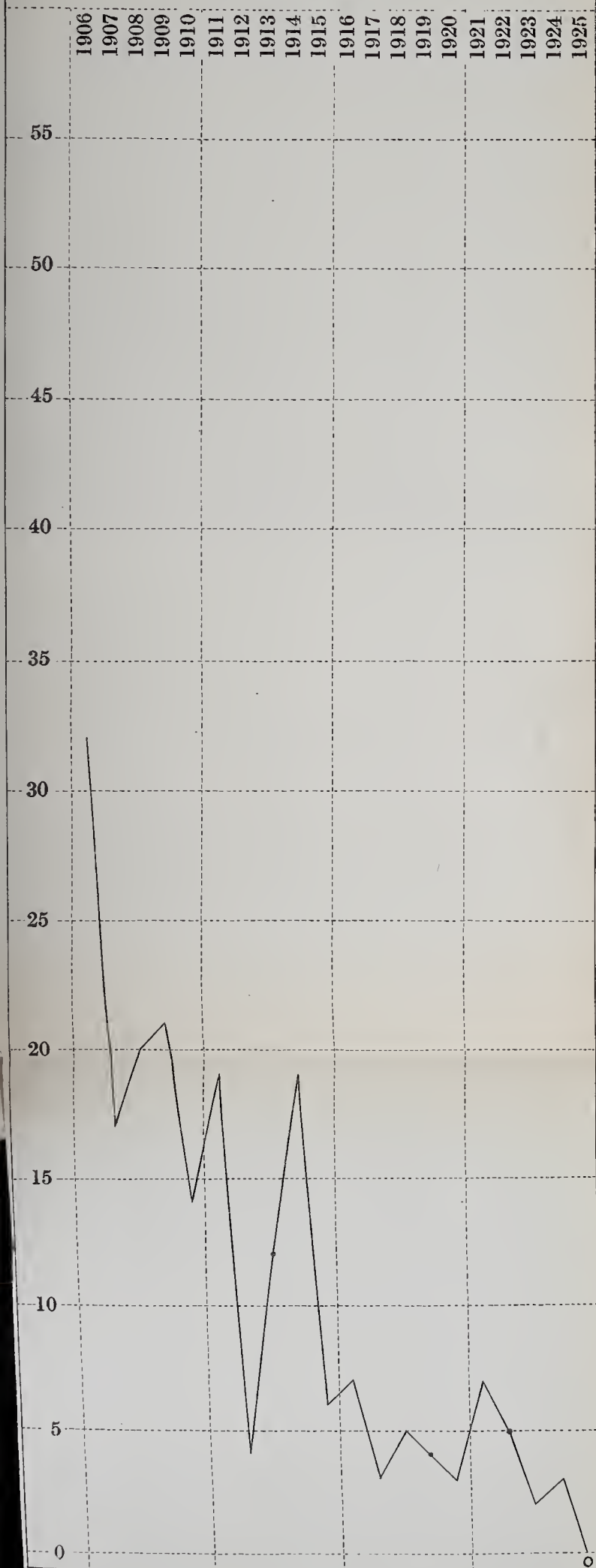
Cases of Scarlet Fever notified in HINDLEY.



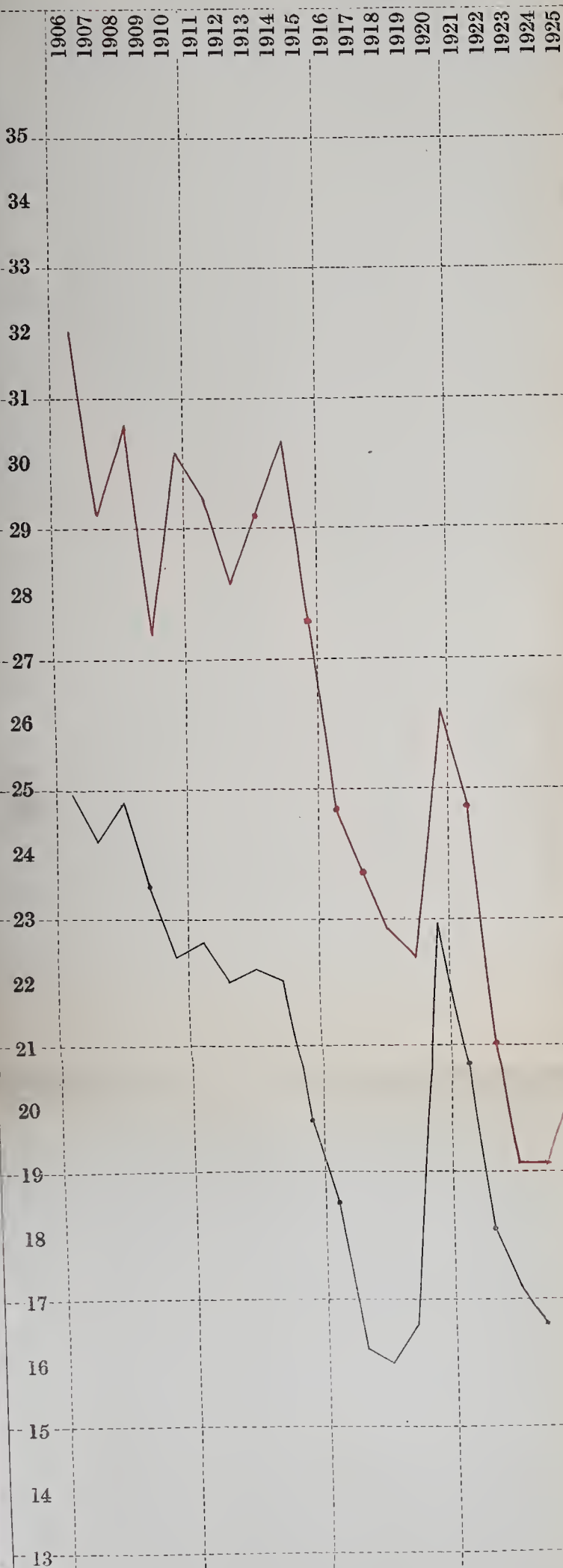
Cases of Diphtheria notified in
HINDLEY.



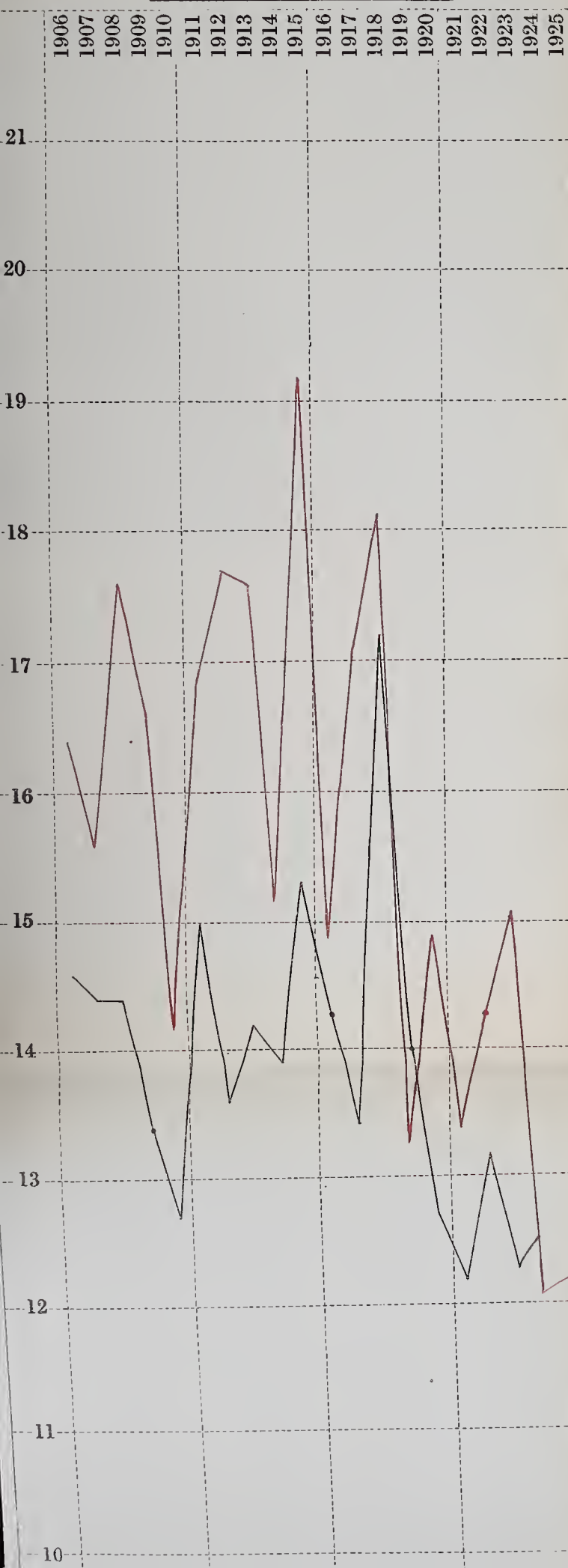
Cases of Enteric Fever notified in HINDLEY.



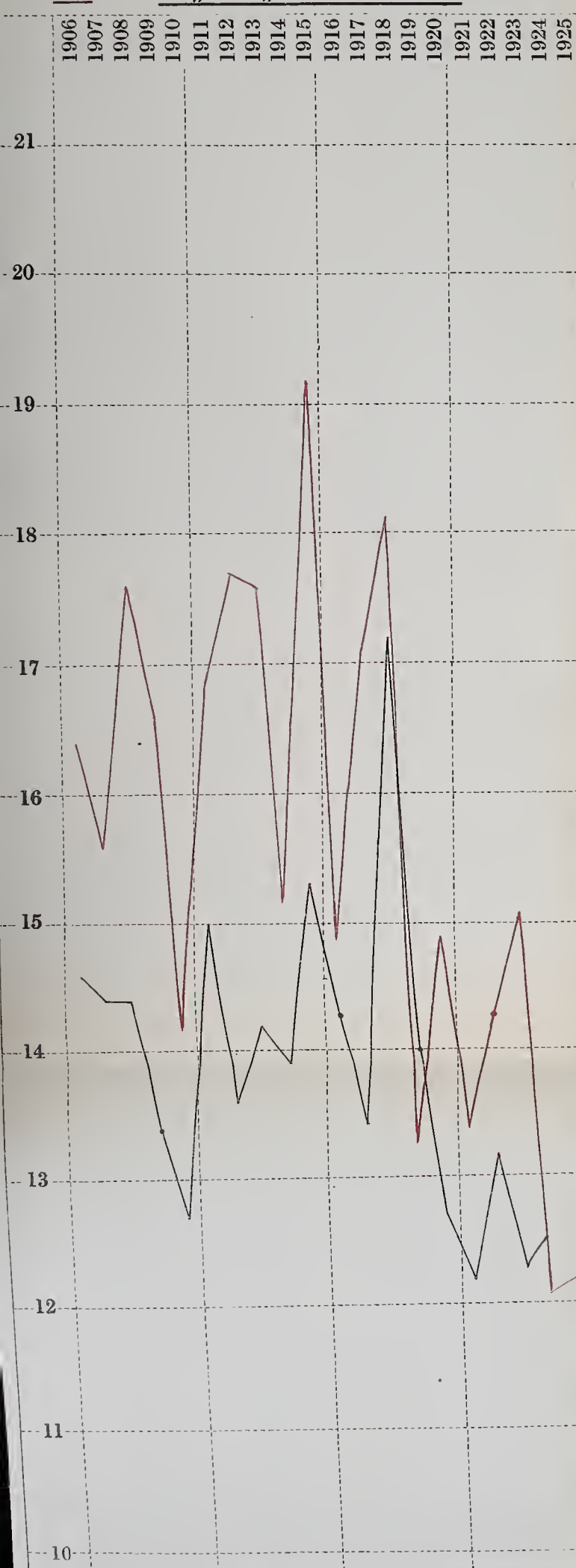
Birth Rate of HINDLEY.
COUNTY.



Death Rate of HINDLEY. COUNTY.



Death Rate of HINDLEY. COUNTY.



Infantile Mortality Rate of HINDLEY. COUNTY.

